

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of foxshawnm at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:40 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Stadium Funding from Shawn Michael Fox #30522560

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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This information is a result of a Pinellas County Online Customer Service form submission from the Pinellas County web site.

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 René Flowers - District 7
County Administrator

Your Name Shawn Michael Fox

Subject Stadium Funding

Message I would like to voice my displeasure with the commission seeking to delay voting on funding for the Rays' new stadium in St. Petersburg. While I understand the beaches are an important part of our community, so too is having professional sports in Pinellas County. Additionally, approving a deal only to back out on funding that deal sends a bad message of commissioners being untrustworthy partners in the process. Please vote to approve funding for the new stadium.

Your Street Address 12981 Pineway Drive

City/Unincorporated County Largo

Zip Code 33773

Your Phone Number 7274186205

Your Email Address

foxshawnm@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 8:24 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic Gas Plant Redevelopment Plan and Tampa Bay Rays new Stadium
BCC Agenda Date 11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue Support
Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name Theresa Jones
Address 4055 3rd Ave S
4055 3rd Ave S, 4055 3rd Ave S 4055 3rd Ave S
Phone +1+17275507499
Email tdjones67.tj@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Karen Labbe <labbekaren@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 7:12 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Vote for Rays and development project funding

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Mr. Eggers.

I am respectfully requesting that you vote Yes to fund the Rays/Pinellas development project. I am a Rays fan and have watched this project play out for the last five years. It was approved finally and now at the last step should not be voted down. The Rays are as much victims of Milton as anyone else and the fact that the best option for them was Steinbrenner field should not be the kiss of death to this project. That would be selfish and shortsighted. Please do the right thing for the Rays and the entire region. We stand to lose the team altogether if this vote fails.

Thank you for your time,
Karen Labbe

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of auntiejo at prodigy.net
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 6:43 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: FUNDING GOR THE RAYS STADIUM from JoAnne Pihlkar #30522316

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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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 JoAnne Pihlkar

Subject FUNDING GOR THE RAYS STADIUM

Message

Please understand that none of us chose to be decimated by back to back hurricanes. The Rays are trying to make the best of a bad situation. The Tampa stadium checks off all the boxes that the MLB REQUIRES in order to host a major league team. The Clearwater location would require several million dollars in upgrades to make it compliant. Please know that there are several hundred people who work at the stadium, many of whom are senior citizens and living on a fixed income. The additional money they earn helps them, if only a little bit — but they enjoy being at the field, so it doesn't seem like work. There are also numerous non-profit organizations who volunteer their time at the concession stands, earning money for their organizations. You may not realize the economic impact the Rays have on this area, but it's huge. I urge you to vote yes on funding the stadium and keep the Rays in Tampa Bay. To deny funding will also put between 500-1000 game day employees out of a job.

Your Street Address 6485 Cape Sable Way NE

City/Unincorporated County St petersburg

Zip Code 33702

Your Email Address auntiejo@prodigy.net

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Eres, Christian L

From: Heather Clark <heather.c@spli.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 6:21 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Long, Janet C; Peters, Kathleen; Justice, Charlie; Latvala, Christopher; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Tuesday's Bond Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Good evening Commissioners

Thank you for your service to the community. This email is sent with an utmost urgency in addressing the upcoming vote Tuesday. This is more than a vote for the Rays new stadium. This is a vote for the continued growth in the community. A lack of funding for a new stadium not only negatively affects the Rays, their employees, their families but also the community in its entirety.

The Tampa Bay Rays fan base extends much farther than local and statewide residents. Families travel to the area and support the local economy in numbers that are far more than the average citizen understands.

For our area to be devastated by two hurricanes was already a financial and emotional loss, but to withhold funding for this project is irresponsible at the highest level.

I implore each of you, to follow through with the funding and support of our community, its citizens and fans.

Voting against the bond issuance is simply a personal political ploy that cannot and will not be accepted.

It is an honor to be given the privilege of a MLB team, please do not take that privilege for granted. It is a loss that will affected generations and nothing good will come from it.

Respectfully,

Heather Clark
Director, Human Resources and Benefits
Designated Corporate Representative
Employment and Workers Compensation Litigation
SouthEast Personnel Leasing

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Eres, Christian L

From: Ian O'neill <oneill33707@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 5:24 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Support for the Rays new stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Commissioner Eggers,

I hope this message finds you well. As someone who has dedicated much of your life to sports and community building, I'm writing to urge your support for the bonds to fund the Tampa Bay Rays' new stadium.

The Rays have been a unifying force in Pinellas County, much like your years of coaching and umpiring in Little League. This new stadium will be more than a home for baseball—it will be a community hub, inspiring the next generation of athletes and hosting events that bring families together.

I also know how much you value Pinellas County's cultural diversity, shaped by your upbringing in Latin America. The Rays celebrate that same diversity through their community initiatives, aligning with the values you've championed throughout your life.

Voting to approve these bonds will ensure the Rays continue to uplift and unite our community while creating a lasting legacy of leadership—one that your children, Ryan and Emily, and the rest of Pinellas County will be proud of.

Thank you for considering this heartfelt request. Your dedication to sports and our community makes your support especially meaningful.

Sincerely,
Ian O'neill

Eres, Christian L

From: Deborah Fulton <dfulton7@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 4:43 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Peters, Kathleen; Latvala, Christopher; vince@vincenowicki.com; chris@schererforpinellas.com
Subject: Please Vote YES for the TB Rays Bonds

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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As a lifetime Pinellas County resident, an annual TB Rays ticket holder (that attends every home game), and fan from day one, I'd like to share some thoughts on the proposed stadium deal. The TB Rays have been proponents and supporters of many community activities, too many to list here. The tourism brought to the Tampa Bay area is evident in the visitors to the Trop who I speak with at every home game. I share with them my stadium experiences, local places to eat and visit. Many plan annual vacations based when their hometown teams will be playing at the Trop. They love that it's indoors, no worries of weather conditions. How ironic that weather is what is causing havoc on what I thought was finally a done deal. I don't understand how we have gotten to this point and I'm very disappointed for the continual delays. Please vote YES to the bonds and make Pinellas County home to the TB Rays for many years to come. Work and play in Pinellas!

I share the sentiment of Commissioner Scott:

Not to mention, the county's share of funding comes from a pot of money that has drastic limitations on how it can be spent.

"The basic part of the deal that I voted on a few months ago, I still believe in," County Commissioner Brian Scott said at Thursday's workshop. "Just to remind everybody (Tourist Development Council) funds we cannot (use to) rebuild people's homes or rebuild people's businesses. They're highly restricted. We can't pave roads with them. We can't pay first responders with them, but we can fund sports facilities with them.

"We will recover from these hurricanes. We will. For decades after Helene and Milton are in our rearview mirror, that development is going to continue to spin off general fund dollars to this county that does benefit our residents that we're not getting today. So I just want to make sure that we're also considering the long view on this and that we're not making a knee-jerk reaction based on the trouble and strife that we're dealing with now."

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Debbie Fulton
727-439-0677

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of raymmurphy at aol.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 4:23 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Gas Plant district from Raymond Murphy #30522060

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry	Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4 Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5
Your Name	Raymond Murphy
Subject	Gas Plant district
Message	Gentlemen, please, please don't make yourselves the two most ridiculed commissioners in the history of Pinellas County by letting your 15 minutes of fame go to your heads. Respect the 17 years of work that's been done. The Gas Plant is a good plan with enormous benefits for this and future generations.
Your Street Address	180 Beach Drive NE
City/Unincorporated County	St. Petersburg
Zip Code	33701
Your Email Address	raymmurphy@aol.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Robert Salta <rsalta3@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 4:02 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Support for Tampa Bay Rays Bond issuing

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Commissioner Eggers,

My name is Robert Salta, and I am writing to express my support for the bond issuing to help keep the Tampa Bay Rays in our community.

First, I want to commend you for your dedication and effort in advocating for a better deal for Pinellas County. Your leadership in balancing the interests of taxpayers while supporting economic development has not gone unnoticed, and I appreciate your commitment to securing the best outcome for the residents of Pinellas County.

That said, I urge you to vote in favor of the Rays bond issuing. The Tampa Bay Rays have become a cornerstone to our community and to St Petersburg. I urge you to not let a once in a life time storm to jeopardize the future of major league baseball in Pinellas county. I know your position was not against a deal in general, but rather ensuring the best deal possible was reached for the county. But we have reached the eleventh hour and keeping St Pete, Pinellas county and even Tampa Bay at large a Major League City is now at risk. It is a great honor to be one of the 30 cities that have the opportunity to host Americas pastime.

But almost more importantaly than the sentimentality of baseball is the importance of its County to uphold its commitments. Businesses, both existing and prospective, look at how governments uphold their agreements when deciding where to invest. If we fail to act decisively now, it could send a troubling message to future businesses considering Pinellas as a potential home. Maintaining a reputation as a reliable and supportive partner is critical to the long-term growth and prosperity of our county.

I trust that you will weigh these considerations as you make your decision, and I hope you will support the Rays bond issuing to help ensure the team's future here in Pinellas and Tampa Bay. And I hope you continue to keep Pinellas a county that is safe for future developers to trust and partner with. Thank you again for your thoughtful leadership on this matter.

Sincerely,
Robert Salta

Eres, Christian L

From: Nancy G DuVall <ncg911@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 3:36 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Tampa Bay Rays

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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I am not a Pinellas county resident but we come from Highlands County all summer during the MLB season. For us, the drive to see a Rays baseball game is much easier than driving to Tampa. If our family has to Hillsborough County, you will be losing the money we spend in Pinellas because me and my family have no other reason to go to your county and spend money. I'm sure there are many other people that live in surrounding county's that are in a similar situation and we are in a non surrounding county and still choose to come because it's an easier drive. I want to continue spending my money in your county but without the Rays that will likely not happen. Please take that into consideration with your vote on the bonds for the Tropicana field re-development.

His humble servant,
Nancy G. DuVall

Sent from my iPhone

Eres, Christian L

From: "VOICE/+7327548334"@entxprkrn1p.pinellascounty-fl.gov
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 3:31 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: Voice mail: 55 sec.
Attachments: 21005243_VOICE_241116-153042.wav

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: DOWNLOADED, UPLOADED

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of gabriellalella at protonmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 3:21 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Vote for the Rays bond deal from Gabriella Barbarigo #30521912

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Direction of Inquiry

- Request a Service
- 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
- County Administrator
- Webmaster

Your Name Gabriella Barbarigo

Subject Vote for the Rays bond deal

Message I am emailing you to request you to vote AGAINST the bonds for the Rays deal. Thanking you in advance.

Your Street Address 1716 Sunkissed Dr.

City/Unincorporated County Tarpon Springs

Zip Code 34689

Your Phone Number 7279357677

Your Email Address

gabriellella@protonmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 3:09 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic Rays Bond \$ Approval

BCC Agenda Date

Your Stand on the Issue Support

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

Citizen Name Curtis Cruise

Address 100 1st Ave N #2506
St. Pete, FL 33701

Phone +17275156673

Email cwwcruise@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Curtis Cruise <cwwcruise@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 3:04 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: Approve Rays Bond \$

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Approve the bonds to build the stadium and redevelop the DT St. Pete area! Don't allow a 100 year storm and 1 season in Tampa ruin years or work and negotiations and ruin the future of baseball for the next 50 years!

Eres, Christian L

From: Charles Hartwig <chas.hartwig@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 2:55 PM
To: Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Long, Janet C; Scott, Brian; Justice, Charlie
Subject: Please approve the bonds

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Commissioners Peters, Scott, Long, Justice, Eggers, Latvala, and Flowers -

I write to you as an individual with no connection to the Tampa Bay Rays or anyone involved in the development project. I have been a resident of Pinellas County since 2016.

After many years of painstaking work between the Rays, St. Petersburg, and Pinellas County, all parties committed to a transformational development project for the entire region.

Pinellas should respect the judgment of the prior Commission, and approve the bond issue, especially since there has been no material change in the plan.

The Tampa Bay Times has quoted Commissioners raising issues such as

- Unhappiness that the Rays are playing the 2025 season outside of Pinellas County - the Pinellas facilities don't have sufficient seating and will require costly upgrades to meet the standards required by MLB and the MLB Players Association.
- The cost of Helene and Milton remediation has changed the County's ability to fund their portion - Helene and Milton remediation costs are insignificant in the context of the total revenues and costs over the next 30 years.

There are also financial downsides if the development halted.

Finally, there is the broader issue of Pinellas County no longer being considered a reliable partner for future development opportunities. We all know that competing development agencies will emphasize this point, which I think will resonate powerfully with investors considering Pinellas County locations among others.

Please do not let a generational development opportunity for Pinellas County, St. Pete, and the broader region slip through your fingers.

[Chas Hartwig](#)

201 17th St. S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33714
973-216-8525

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of cmarsh3409 at yahoo.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 2:48 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays Bond Issue from Courtenay Marshall #30521869

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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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 Kathleen Peters - District 6 (2024 Chair)
Commissioner René Flowers - District 7
County Administrator

Your Name Courtenay Marshall

Subject Rays Bond Issue

Message how could the council even consider backing out of the Bond deal now? Who would trust anything you all said going forward? What business would want to come here? Sure it benefits a rich person. That rich person employees hundreds of regular people and this project will supports thousands and move St Petersburg forward. If you were going to kill the deal we should have known before the election

Your Street Address 604 45th Ave N

City/Unincorporated County St Petersburg

Zip Code 33703

Your Phone Number 7272242851

Your Email Address

cmars3409@yahoo.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Scott Brown <S.Brown@swflsalons.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 2:33 PM
To: Scottbrscott@pinellas.gov; Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; vince@vincenowicki.com
Cc: Kacey McGlone; ryan.adelberg@stpete.org; brandi.gabbard@stpete.org; lisset.hanewicz@stpete.org; deborah.figgs-sanders@stpete.org; gina.driscoll@stpete.org; John.Muhammad@stpete.org; richie.floyd@stpete.org
Subject: New Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Pinellas County Commissioners

First and foremost, I want to applaud you all for your support of the new Rays Stadium. What an exciting time for the region! While I do not live in the area, I can assure you that the existence of the Rays fosters many visits to the region, including that of restaurants, hotels, theme parks, etc...by those of us in SW Florida.

We are certainly familiar with hurricanes, even more so than that of your region as Lee County Florida has had many challenges with storms. The latest tragedy in the damage to the Trop is awful. Its magnitude is large I would agree, but nothing compared to that of Hurricane Ian and the damages occurring on our coastal islands, mainland infrastructure, and along out inner coastal waterways. It took courage for our local government to take on this challenge along with state and federal authorities.

Now Pinellas County is faced with a huge challenge in their recent efforts to keep MLB baseball in the region. As a season ticket holder of several tickets, and a business that has sponsored the Rays in the past (Fantastic Sams), I can explicitly say that the region receives many travelers from our neck of the woods due to MLB baseball. In fact, I would go as far as to say, the region becomes much less important without MLB baseball. For the Rays and Pinellas County to stay competitive for the entertainment dollars in this region, they must continue to support the new stadium. Otherwise, it is likely that the Rays will move onto to other states that would love to host an MLB team. The history, demographics, and financial outcome clearly shows the value of an MLB franchise in the cities they reside in.

On a personal note, last year it looks like my family spent about 28K in trips to the Tampa region, and all but one of them were associated with the Rays game also. Examples would be to visit a museum before a game, visiting restaurants before games. A night or two stay to watch a couple of games, always in hotels, followed by shopping, etc...I am asking for your continued support of the new stadium and recognize the extremely difficult task of having to play elsewhere while this gets resolved. In my opinion, it is a waste of money to spend any money on the Trop and simply get it down to make the build easier. I am sure there is much more to it then this, but I hate to see any capital waste for anyone, really does not matter who is paying the bill.

Thank you for your time and effort in reading this message.

All my best

Scott Brown
CEO/Managing Member
SWFL Salons, LLC
1490 NE Pine Island Rd 9A
Cape Coral, FL 33909
239-362-0266
239-494-8430 (fax)

Eres, Christian L

From: Scott Nannen <nannenscott@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 2:21 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium Bond

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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November 14, 2024

Dear Pinellas County Board of Commissioners,

I am writing this letter with tremendous support and enthusiasm to approve the bonds for the Hines/Tampa Bay Rays stadium development. I am not a member of this community, but I felt empowered to write this because Pinellas County is a place my wife and I hold dear in our hearts. I have visited Pinellas County numerous times and wanted to show my wife (then girlfriend) how amazing the city is. In fact, our first trip together was to St. Petersburg in 2021 when we were dating.

We had the time of our lives. We attended a multitude of restaurants, visited the Pier, went to the beach, parasailed, and went to three Tampa Bay Rays games. It was a launching point to our relationship. We got married in 2023 and of course our destination for a honeymoon was not in doubt. We returned to St. Petersburg for a week to enjoy the Don Cesar, St. Pete Beach, the Sunken Gardens, Dali Museum, the Pier, and of course, three more Rays games. We forever have our good memories in St. Petersburg etched into our

memories. My wife lovingly created a photo album book of our trip to encapsulate the great times we had.

The Rays have been a focal point of my fanhood. I was 8 years old when I selected them as my favorite team in 1998. I grew up with this team through the losing seasons and now the winning seasons and playoff appearances. I watch or listen to nearly every game. I attend games at Tropicana Field and other Major League ballparks just to watch the Rays. The Rays are something that my wife and I bond over.

The City of St. Petersburg and Pinellas County will cement its legacy with an upcoming vote on bonds to secure funding for the redevelopment. The proposed Hines/Tampa Bay Rays stadium development is a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that will demonstrate resilience for both the county and city in the aftermath of the devastating hurricanes. This is an incredible opportunity. The locals need it, the fans deserve it, and tourists will relish in it. I want my family to continue vacationing in St. Petersburg for years to come. My wife and I cannot wait to attend the new Rays ballpark and see phase one of the redevelopment project in 2028. We are excited to spend money at new shops and restaurants, and at Rays games.

In conclusion, I look forward to Pinellas County approving the bonds for the Hines/Tampa Bay Rays stadium development to keep St. Petersburg prosperous for years to come. Thank you for making Pinellas County the most beautiful, enchanting, and welcoming place for all.

Thank you,

Scott Nannen

Sent from my iPhone

Eres, Christian L

From: Brian Roush <brian.g.roush@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 2:16 PM
To: Scottbrscott@pinellas.gov; Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Tampa Bay Rays

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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I'm not a Pinellas county resident but I bring my family to Pinellas county all year long from Hernando county and spend thousands of dollars there, especially during the MLB season. That being said, if Rays baseball doesn't exist in Pinellas county n my family and I have no other reason to go to your county and spend money, and I can assure you there are thousands of other people that live in surrounding county's that are in a similar situation. I want to continue spending my money in your county but without the Rays that won't happen. Please take that into consideration with your vote on the bonds for the Tropicana field re-development.

Regards,

Brian Roush
Spring Hill

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 2:05 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic Rays Stadium Bonds

BCC Agenda Date

Your Stand on the Issue Support

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

Citizen Name Trae Williams

Address

Phone

Email traew@yahoo.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 1:37 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic Historic Gas Plant District bond issuance
BCC Agenda Date 11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue Support
Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name Jim Dietrich
Address 1863 76th Ave N
Saint Petersburg, FL 33702
Phone
Email eaglesfanintampa@yahoo.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of eaglesfanintampa at yahoo.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 1:32 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Historic Gas Plant District bond issuance from Jim Dietrich #30521730

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry Commissioner Brian Scott - District 2 (2024 Vice-Chair)
Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4
Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5
Commissioner Kathleen Peters - District 6 (2024 Chair)
Commissioner René Flowers - District 7

Your Name Jim Dietrich

Subject Historic Gas Plant District bond issuance

Message Thank you for your time in reading this today.

Contracts are accords between two or more parties to foster trust and progress. They go through a vetting and negotiation process that sometimes lasts for years to ensure all parties are satisfied with the deal being achieved.

That is the time for negotiation and deal making, *not* after the contract has been signed.

Trying to change the rules after the fact erodes trust and shows other parties your side negotiated in bad faith, meaning others will be less likely do deal with the bad-faith actors in the future.

The time for grandstanding is over. A contract was signed by the Tampa Bay Rays, the City of St Petersburg, and your body, the Pinellas County Commission in July, and if we want to be taken seriously as a high-quality business partner not just for Major League Baseball but for Jabil, Raymond James, Foot Locker, and other Fortune 1000 companies looking to stay in or move to Pinellas County, you *must* honor the commitments to

the contract.

Otherwise, not only will we lose the Rays, but the Phillies and Blue Jays will think twice about signing spring training renewals, and it will send a flare to the business community at-large that Pinellas County is *not* business friendly because the County can renege at its leisure, legally binding commitments be damned.

I know you need to show your constituents you "tried to prevent businesses from strong-arming" the county for reelection purposes, but you have a fiduciary duty to approve what was agreed upon and signed. We all understand the rationale of the original delay after dealing with Helene and saw Milton impending, but even a delay of one more month sends the message that Pinellas is no longer a good business partner and can't be trusted.

On Tuesday, I highly encourage you vote to move the bonds forward and end this farce. Even if you think the Rays are getting an unfair deal (they're not, since they're paying for over 60% of the costs and a much increased tax burden from today, and that's a high percentage compared to other projects), your body had the chance to negotiate and did so. We are no longer at that point.

Will you be a business-friendly body that honors its commitments for decade to come, or will you allow Hillsborough, Orange, Duval, Miami-Dade, and practically every other large county in the state hold that over us forever, poaching our medium- and large-business tax base in perpetuity?

The choice is yours – make the right one.

Respectfully,
Jim Dietrich
St Petersburg resident since 2003

Your Street Address	1863 76th Ave N
City/Unincorporated County	Saint Petersburg
Zip Code	33702
Your Email Address	eaglesfanintampa@yahoo.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Edgar Wolff <nunnwolff@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 1:05 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Bond Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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This is to inform you that I support the Tampa Rays staying in St. Petersburg. Your bond delay tactics are not acceptable. As a long time resident of Pinellas, Republican and voter I urge you to vote yes on the current bond issue.

Edgar Wolff
Largo

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of rlmartin71 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 12:11 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays bond funding from Robert Martin #30521605

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry

- 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 Robert Martin

Subject Rays bond funding

Message Please do not delay the vote on the Rays stadium funding or you will lose the team and all the positives that come with having a MLB team.

I frequently vacation in St. Pete but will stop spending my \$ in your county if you guys kill this deal.

Latvala has an extreme conflict of interest with his relationship with the Phillies. Do not vote down this bond funding or delay the vote only to turn around and fund the Phillies minor league park improvements. That would be a really, really bad look on all of you.

What's so ironic is the Rays could leave the area for a new city and still have control over the Hines redevelopment and all the benefits that come with that, including millions in revenue. Could you guys shoot yourselves in the foot any harder if that were to happen?

The Rays and all involved don't have the luxury of waiting while you guys kick the can down the road further. If you do, they will have no choice but to relocate. Is that what

you guys want? There are now strict timelines to get this stadium built and all of you know should know that. Time is not on your side. If you don't believe me, do your own research.

Do you really want to be petty over one year of the Rays playing in Tampa, which was BTW not by any choice of theirs. They had to pick the best MLB ready ballpark with the most seating. And, it's the closest to Tropicana field which should be a good thing for your constituents.

They are still going to lose a significant amount of revenue next year but they, unlike this council, see the bigger picture, long term benefits of a 30+ year agreement. An agreement they have gone into in good faith.

What does that say about your county and commission if you can't be relied upon by any business, not just the Rays, to honor an agreement you made?

Again, I can tell you that I won't be visiting your beaches ever again if you kill this deal. And don't be so short - sighted as to think I won't be the only one to vacation elsewhere from now on. How does that affect your tourism revenue?

Put aside the hurt feelings, do what your constituents are wanting you to do and support this deal before it's too late. And it will be too late if you delay voting.

If you don't believe me that your constituents overwhelmingly support funding the Rays deal just go onto social media and look for yourself.

Latvala has been claiming on social media, responding to my posts and others, that he hasn't heard from any constituent except for one via email. If you're relying on not receiving any emails but ignoring social media to discern the pulse of your people then that is a grave error on your part that will have lasting impacts on each and every one of your political careers. People will remember.

Delaying is the same as killing the deal. And don't think people will be so stupid as to know it wasn't the Rays that killed baseball in St. Pete, it was this council that killed the deal. And voters have a long, long, long memory.

Do you really want to be remembered as the council that killed baseball in St. Pete? Because that will be your unmistakable legacy.

You have a chance to do the right thing long - term for your city and the entire area. But you have no more time to push a vote down the road.

Do right by your constituents and the people that visit and spend their \$ in your county. Vote yes for funding the bonds on Tuesday.

Your Street Address	110 Nebraska Street
City/Unincorporated County	Asheville
Zip Code	28806

Your Phone Number 4045142443

Your Email Address rlmartin71@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:05 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Bonds for Rays Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	William Gutwein
Address	6575 99th Way N Saint Petersburg, FL 33708
Phone	+15028213437
Email	fritzg@mac.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Kyle Appleyard <kyle5001@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:53 AM
To: Long, Janet C; Scott, Brian; Justice, Charlie; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene
Subject: Urgent Support for the Rays Stadium Bond Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Pinellas County Commissioners,

I am writing to urge your full support for the proposed bond to fund the new Rays stadium. This project is not just about baseball; it is about the economic vitality, cultural pride, and national reputation of our community.

The Tampa Bay Rays are more than a sports team—they are a cornerstone of our region’s identity and an engine for economic growth. The loss of the Rays would have devastating consequences:

1. **Economic Impact:** A Major League Baseball franchise drives significant revenue for local businesses, creates jobs, and attracts tourism. Studies consistently show that cities with professional sports teams enjoy increased economic activity, both directly at stadium events and indirectly through hospitality, retail, and other local services. Losing the Rays would mean forfeiting these benefits and jeopardizing future growth opportunities.
2. **Community Identity:** The Rays are woven into the fabric of Tampa Bay. Their games bring together fans of all backgrounds, fostering a sense of community pride. Losing this team would leave a void in our cultural landscape that no other entity can fill.
3. **National Perception:** If we fail to secure this deal, Tampa Bay risks being viewed as a region unable—or unwilling—to support professional sports. This perception could deter future investment, harm our reputation, and position us as a cautionary tale in the sports world.

The support for this deal across the community is overwhelming. Residents, business leaders, and local organizations recognize the importance of keeping the Rays in Tampa Bay and investing in a facility that reflects our commitment to excellence. The proposed bond is not just an expenditure; it is a down payment on our community’s future success.

I implore you to think beyond the immediate cost and consider the long-term consequences of inaction. Let us ensure that Tampa Bay remains a vibrant, thriving region that celebrates its sports teams and the economic and cultural benefits they bring.

Sincerely,
Kyle Appleyard
Lifelong Pinellas county resident.

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:25 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Rays Stadium Bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Christopher Talley
Address	920 43rd Ave NE St. Petersburg, FL 33703
Phone	+17274037992
Email	Crtalley@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of thornton4 at mac.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:24 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Tampa Bay Rays from David Thornton #30521410

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Direction of Inquiry	Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4 Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5
Your Name	David Thornton
Subject	Tampa Bay Rays
Message	You guys are doing great work so please stay the course. The Tampa Bay Times has now abandoned any pretense of objectivity and is advocating for the Rays through both columns and editorials. While I personally regret the demise of local newspapers, the Times is on the ropes financially and likely sees regional sports as one of the last reasons they retain a few readers. It would seem a sense of ethics would require them to disclose their own conflict.
Your Street Address	2196 Laurence Drive
City/Unincorporated County	Clearwater
Zip Code	33764
Your Phone Number	727 422 7083
Your Email Address	thornton4@mac.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of bulpen23 at yahoo.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 6:07 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays baseball from Gabriel #30520338

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry

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

Your Name Gabriel

Subject Rays baseball

Message The team spoke to u guys please vote yes to issue the bonds the Fan's are not happy the Yankees will help

Your Street Address 11387 88th Avenue

City/Unincorporated County Seminole

Zip Code 33772

Your Phone Number 7272772404

Your Email Address bulpen23@yahoo.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of boltsbucsrays at yahoo.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 5:49 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Vote YES for Rays stadium bonds! from Michael Iliff #30520263

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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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 Michael Iliff

Subject Vote YES for Rays stadium bonds!

Message As a Pinellas County voter and property owner, I strongly encourage you to vote yes for the bonds. Please don't allow our county to lose this rare asset. Prior generations worked tirelessly to attract MLB. Don't lose it!

Thanks
Michael Iliff

Your Street Address 690 4th Ave S

City/Unincorporated County St Petersburg

Zip Code 33701

Your Email Address boltsbucsrays@yahoo.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of cmarsh3409 at yahoo.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 4:35 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays Stadium from Courtenay Marshall #30519843

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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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 Courtenay Marshall

Subject Rays Stadium

Message

At a time when the area has been battered and bruised to even consider blowing up the Stadium deal is the dumbest thing I've heard in a long time. It feels like a member of the group is representing the Phillies interests and not the interests of Pinellas county of which I have been a resident for 30 years. The Rays were in a horrible bind and needed the best possible available location under tough circumstances. To say blowing up the deal because of one temporary season in Tampa and chasing the team out of the market is childish and will not be forgotten. The response to that possibility is not being taken favorably on places like Twitter and Facebook. Do the right thing and stand by the bond issue.

Your Street Address 604 45th Ave N

City/Unincorporated County St Petersburg

Zip Code 33703

Your Phone Number 7272242851

Your Email Address cmarsh3409@yahoo.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of kthor81 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 3:36 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Cloutier-Adams from Nadia #30519496

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry General Information
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 Nadia

Subject Cloutier-Adams

Message Dear Commissioners

I am writing to encourage you support the issuance of bonds to the Rays for the new ballpark. This development is a commitment of 30 years of Rays Baseball in Pinellas county. The Rays have played every season in Pinellas since 1998. Hurricane Milton brought unseen damage to their stadium. They will be back in 2026 and beyond. Please support the team in their future in this county.

Your Street Address 200 4th Ave S

City/Unincorporated County St Petersburg

Zip Code 33701

Your Phone Number 7172458628

Your Email Address kthor81@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of srandyallen at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 2:52 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Tropicana Field/The Rays from RANDY ALLEN SMITH #30519197

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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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 RANDY ALLEN SMITH

Subject Tropicana Field/The Rays

Message

Hello, I moved to St Pete from Indiana in 1991, I was a Cubs fan. I love my adopted hometown. I finished my degree at Eckerd College, I bought a home, and raised a child here. I also vote and have been very active in local politics prior to retirement. All the while I have been a loyal baseball fan and a Rays fan from the beginning! Heez I remember when thr trop was the TunderDome, and before that the Florida Suncoast Dome. I am Rays season ticket holder, and personally saddened they will be playing in Tampa, because it is harder for me to get to games. But at least they are in Tampa Bay! Baseball is a major economic driver and vital to a world class community. Baseball brings in more revenue than basketball and hockey, and race cars! This past summer we were devastated by Hurricanes, and are still cleaning up. Please do not let Milton take our Rays too!!! Honor the new Satdium deal, vote yes on the bonds! Thank you! RaysUp!!!

Your Street Address 1525 59th Street North

City/Unincorporated County	St. Petersburg
Zip Code	33710
Your Phone Number	17275636214
Your Email Address	srandyallen@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Jamie Hemond <jhemond@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 2:34 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Mr. Eggers.

I'm imploring you to support the Rays Stadium vote. Voting against the stadium is the same as voting against tens of thousands of Pinellas County Rays fans.

Even if you don't like the team, think of what a joke Pinellas County will be if we lose the Rays.

Do the right thing and Support your County like you were elected to do.

Thank you,
James Hemond

Eres, Christian L

From: Jay Miller <jmiller@j2developers.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 12:05 PM
To: Jay Miller
Subject: Rays Stadium Bonds

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear County Commissioners,

I am a Pinellas County native (St Pete Beach), St Petersburg resident and business owner and active participant in civic life in our county (current or former Board member or Board President of the Bayfront Hospital, Temple Beth El, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County and Gulfcoast JFCS and Public Policy vice chair of the St. Pete. Chamber of Commerce). I am writing to urge you to approve the bonds next week for the new stadium for the Tampa Bay Rays, anchoring development of the larger Gas Plant District in downtown St Pete.

Our County has been battered during this storm season disrupting the lives of many of our neighbors (I too had damage to my home; fortunately not catastrophic). Restoration of our communities as soon as possible must be our top priority. This is a goal we can achieve together during the next 12 months. However, at the same time, we need to keep an eye on the future of our County in order to ensure long term economic development and support the future evolution of our tourist based economy. The prior County Commission voted to approve the heavily negotiated deal with the Rays earlier this year and it is important that our County stand by its commitments.

Having the TB Rays play in Pinellas County is a boon to our tourist industry and tourist tax collections during slow summer months. How many times have we all attended Rays games when half or more of the crowd is rooting for the other team? Many of these fans come to games from other parts of Florida or out of state. The national media attention of games at the Trop garners attention to our county and region and opens many eyes about the diverse economy and lifestyle we enjoy here in Pinellas County, and dispels notions that St Pete/Clearwater is simply a place to vacation or retire.

Most important, this project makes economic sense. The Rays Hines team plans to develop an ambitious mixed use project around the stadium adding potentially \$5.0 billion to our County's tax rolls over the next 20 year period. The County and our County schools receive a material amount of the property taxes generated in the city of St Petersburg and will be important beneficiaries of these new tax revenues. If the project doesn't proceed, the game plan for the 86 acre Trop site is uncertain and the County and School Board will delay or lose millions of dollars of tax revenues.

The tourist tax funds required to support the bonds cannot, as I understand, be used to fund the cost of other County needs, such as hurricane restoration and new and better infrastructure. They must be used for tourist promotion purposes or to fund other capital projects which support tourism. In my opinion, we don't need even more bus benches in Chicago, Boston and New York promoting a visit to St Pete/Clearwater (tourist tax revenues are more than enough to advertise and promote our area as a tourism destination and to help fund a new stadium for the Rays); we need to a

long term vision for bringing our tourist-based economy into the 21st century and support smart redevelopment of our fully built out county.

This project is essential for the future of our economy and approval of the bonds is the fiscally conservative option. I urge you to ratify the decision of the prior Commission by approving the bonds. Let's move forward.

Best regards,

Jay Miller
723 17th Avenue NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33704

President, J Square Developers
721 First Avenue N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 11:57 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic Bond Approval for new TB Rays Stadium
BCC Agenda Date 11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue Support
Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name Jay Miller
Address 723 17TH AVE NE
St Petersburg, FL 33704
Phone +18134954800
Email jmiller@j2developers.com

Eres, Christian L

From: jonathan johns <jonathanjohns@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 11:16 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Representative Eggers,

Please vote to keep the Rays here long term and to fund them. Personally, I can't imagine my parents, who are older, without the Rays. Also, using a hurricane as an excuse for this is beyond low. Both my parents and I have experienced hurricane damage firsthand. After a hurricane we come together to help each other not use it for some advantage.

Thank you,

Jonathan Johns

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of stpetebuc4182 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 10:58 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Stadium from Roger Youngs #30517539

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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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 Roger Youngs

Subject Stadium

Message Why are you being so petty saying that they are breaking the agreement, even thou, you screw up down grading the insurance policy. That includes you Chris

Your Street Address 7501 Ulmerton Road

City/Unincorporated County Largo

Zip Code 33771

Your Phone Number 7275094883

Your Email Address stpetebuc4182@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: M <tmcronin1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 10:55 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Upcoming Rays bond vote - please vote 'yes' - don't be short sighted

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Hi Mr. Eggers,

I hope you are doing well. Happy Friday.

I wanted to reach out to urge you to please vote 'YES' on the upcoming bond issuance Nov. 19th (or whenever the vote ultimately happens)

I am a new St. Petersburg resident (I live at Ascent downtown) and I absolutely love the city and the county as a whole. I'm also a proud Republican and would have voted for you this year if you were up for reelection since we agree on most issues.

With that being said, this issue before us is one that will define our county for years and which we cannot afford to make a fatal mistake on. We need to keep moving forward with our growth and evolution as a county and the Gas Plant District redevelopment/new Rays stadium is an essential part of that.

It's my understanding that despite your technical 'no' vote on the final plan proposal you were overall supportive of the concept though you wanted some additional tweaks.

As a taxpayer and resident of the county I very much appreciate your due diligence on that. I really do. But that time has come and gone and it's time to do the right thing and not hold this up any further. It should just be a procedural matter (a 'yes' vote) since the details of the plan were already presented, debated and agreed upon.

A few additional things from me for you to consider (respectfully):

1) It is only going to be one season and then the Trop will likely reopen and things will be back to normal in terms of revenue for the city and county for 2026 and 2027 until the new stadium opens (assuming it does). I've done my research and understand the Lightning played three seasons at the then-Thunder Dome while Amalie Arena was under construction in Tampa. Hillsborough still 'let them go' and it all worked out in the end for both parties.

2) If the deal falls through the negative economic impact to Pinellas would be enormous given the projections I've read from the Gas Plant Distract development and the fact that I understand the Rays organization gets to keep all the revenue anyways even if a stadium isn't ultimately built! That would be very bad news for the county.

Additionally, both the recent Texas Rangers stadium in Arlington and the Atlanta Braves in Cobb County are now both profitable and in the Rangers case many who opposed the county's decision to build the stadium are now happy it was indeed built: [Rangers home Globe Life Field cost worth it, say Arlington taxpayers who helped foot bill](#).

3) This is such a growing region and you certainly know Hillsborough doesn't have the public money to support both the Rays and Bucs so Pinellas is the best option for the Rays.

There are only 30 MLB franchises and they are a tremendous source of pride (outside the revenue discussion) for cities/regions. If we end up losing the Rays, we will never get another team and you and others who would vote against the new stadium bond would forever be remembered as 'the group who lost the team.' I don't think you or the others want that, ultimately.

4) This bond vote from my understanding was mostly thought of as a formality after the deal was agreed to so what would it say to other businesses who want to do business with the county that the deal was pulled in the 11th hour (if you vote no)?

Just a few thoughts from me as a concerned Pinellas County resident. I appreciate your time today and I look forward to hearing from you.

-Thomas M Cronin

TMCronin1@gmail.com

847.271.3328

Eres, Christian L

From: Kenny Latta <kclatta1980@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 10:48 AM
To: Eggers, Dave

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Hi I live in Seminole and I did want the Rays to go to Baycare ballpark instead of Steinbrenner. As long as construction starts on the new stadium then I don't care where they play on 2025. Please vote yes on the bonds for the new stadium.

Eres, Christian L

From: Hood, Mildre R
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 9:45 AM
To: bccassistants
Subject: FW: Online Customer Service Contact Us Form Result #30516900

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Good morning,

This message was received in our after hours in-box.

Forwarding to you for fulfillment, thank you!

Thank you,

Mildre Hood

Administrative Support Specialist

Communications

Pinellas County Government

333 Chestnut Street

Clearwater, FL 33756

MHood@pinellas.gov

Desk (727) 464-4043

Main (727) 464-4600



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From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com <noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 8:51 AM
To: AF, Public <publicaf@pinellas.gov>
Subject: Online Customer Service Contact Us Form Result #30516900

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This information is a result of a Pinellas County Online Customer Service form submission from the Pinellas County web site.

Direction of Inquiry	Report a Problem
Your Name	Jeffery Strible
Subject	Rays New Stadium
Message	<p>Any Commissioner that votes no to fund the New Rays Stadium WILL NEVER EARN MY VOTE AGAIN FOR ANY PUBLIC OFFICE. You already agreed to this so stop being 6 year old entitled brats that flip the board game & the playing pieces in the air when you lose.</p> <p>A PINELLAS COUNTY RESIDENT!</p>
Your Street Address	8957 109th Terrace
City/Unincorporated County	Seminole
Zip Code	33777
Your Phone Number	7277421565
Your Email Address	jstrible@icloud.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of rollins.sharon at att.net
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 1:08 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Tampa Bay Rays Stadium from Sharon Rollins #30516222

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry	Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4
Your Name	Sharon Rollins
Subject	Tampa Bay Rays Stadium
Message	Please vote in favor of the proposed Tampa Bay Rays Stadium!! Our county will benefit from having this new stadium in Pinellas County. Let's Go!!
Your Street Address	210 22nd Ave NE Apt 12
City/Unincorporated County	St Petersburg
Zip Code	33704
Your Email Address	rollins.sharon@att.net

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Eres, Christian L

From: Hani Bakir <hbakir@worldfranchisegroup.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 9:41 PM
To: Latvala, Christopher; Bonneau, Tyler; Scherer, Chris; testillo@pinellas.gov; testillo@pinellas.gov; Scott, Brian; Lee, Bobbie Shay; Nowicki, Vince; Mailbox, Vandenberg; Eggers, Dave; Greenleaf, Kim; Peters, Kathleen; Overend, Ashley; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Herring, Darlina
Subject: Tourist Development Tax Revenue Supplemental Bond Resolution Supplementing Resolution No. 24-42

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express my strong support for the adoption of the Tourist Development Tax Revenue Supplemental Bond Resolution at the upcoming meeting on November 19, which will provide critical funding for the design and construction of a new stadium for the Tampa Bay Rays in St. Petersburg.

The recent devastation caused by Hurricane Milton has placed additional, unanticipated financial strain on the City of St. Petersburg, including extensive damage to Tropicana Field. Repair costs for the existing stadium are estimated at \$55 million, which compounds the city's financial burdens during a time when resources are needed for broader storm recovery efforts. In light of these challenges, the existing agreement between the City of St. Petersburg and the Tampa Bay Rays is facing added complexities, and the need for county support has become even more pressing.

By moving forward with the new stadium project, the County Commission has an opportunity not only to fulfill its prior commitment, but also to ensure the broader redevelopment of the Historic Gas Plant District. This initiative holds the promise of substantial economic growth, job creation, and increased tourism that will benefit all of Pinellas County.

The Rays, the City of St. Petersburg, and other partners have already invested heavily in this project, and a delay could jeopardize this essential commitment to our community. Approving the bond resolution would help reinforce the county's support of the Rays and ensure that this project, which brings economic and cultural value to the area, proceeds as planned.

I urge you to vote in favor of the Tourist Development Tax Revenue Supplemental Bond Resolution. In doing so, you will not only reaffirm the county's commitment but also contribute to the resilience, growth, and vibrancy of Pinellas County.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to the continued prosperity of our community.

Respectfully,

Hani Bakir

President & CEO

World Franchise Group Inc.

Office: [\(754\) 255.7977](tel:7542557977)

Tampa Bay, Florida



Eres, Christian L

From: Ron Torrance <ront@regentampabay.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 4:22 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Keep the Rays in St. Pete

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Mr. Eggers,

Please vote to keep the Rays in St. Pete.

With health,



Ron Torrance II, DO FAOASM

*Regenerative Sports Medicine
Physician,
Regenexx at NROFL*

P Srq: 941-357-1773;Tpa: 813-544-3123

M 9413231765

E ront@regentampabay.com

F 941-256-7452

SRQ 5630 Marquesas Circle

TPA 8600 Hidden River Pkwy Suite 700

St Pete 100 2nd Ave S St 904S

Orlando 1412 Trovillion Avenue

W <https://newregenortho.com>



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Eres, Christian L

From: Hood, Mildre R
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 2:27 PM
To: bccassistants
Subject: FW: Online Customer Service Contact Us Form Result #30514081

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Hi,

This message was received in our after hours in-box.

Forwarding to you for fulfillment, thank you!

Thank you,

Mildre Hood

Administrative Support Specialist

Communications

Pinellas County Government

333 Chestnut Street

Clearwater, FL 33756

MHood@pinellas.gov

Desk (727) 464-4043

Main (727) 464-4600



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From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com <noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 2:16 PM
To: AF, Public <publicaf@pinellas.gov>
Subject: Online Customer Service Contact Us Form Result #30514081

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This information is a result of a Pinellas County Online Customer Service form submission from the Pinellas County web site.

Direction of Inquiry	General Information
Your Name	James Hemond
Subject	Support The Rays
Message	<p>Please do the right thing and support the Rays new stadium. You would not be targeting the Rays organization with your hate, but you would be insulting the tens of thousands of Rays fans in the county and beyond.</p> <p>If you truly value your community and the cache that having a Major League Team here, do your job and support the new Rays stadium.</p>
Your Street Address	1224 Caracas Ave.
City/Unincorporated County	Clearwater
Zip Code	33764
Your Phone Number	7274824282
Your Email Address	jhemond@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of djmoore78 at aol.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 12:07 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: November 19, 2024 Meeting from Joan Moore #30513277

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry Commissioner Brian Scott - District 2 (2024 Vice-Chair)
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 Joan Moore

Subject November 19, 2024 Meeting

Message I am in support of a yes vote on approving bonds for Tropicana Field. The stadium has a long history and should be kept viable for as long as possible.

Your Street Address 107 AMERICANA CT NE

City/Unincorporated County SAINT PETERSBURG

Zip Code 33702

Your Phone Number 727-542-3736

Your Email Address djmoore78@aol.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Brock Heinz <brock@non-euclidian.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 11:15 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Please honor your commitment to the residents of Pinellas County and the Tampa Bay Rays!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed funding to build a new stadium for the Tampa Bay Rays. As a proud Eckerd College graduate and Tampa native, my connection to this community and its rich traditions runs deep. Though I now reside in California for work, I make it a priority to fly back several times a year to share the joy of Rays games with my parents, and afterwards go out for seafood at the pier or in downtown. These outings are more than just baseball—they're cherished family memories and a way for us to stay connected to our hometown roots. They've given me the opportunity to introduce my wife to places like St Pete Beach and Treasure island. Games at the Trop are an anchor for these trips. If the Rays left the area, I don't think we would have motivation to take our family over to Pinellas county.

The Tampa Bay Rays are more than a sports team; they are a vital part of the cultural and economic fabric of the region. A state-of-the-art stadium would not only secure the Rays' future in Pinellas County but also catalyze growth and investment in the area. Enhanced facilities would attract more visitors, create jobs, and serve as a hub for community events, amplifying the positive impact the team already brings.

When I heard about the plans for the new Gas Plant District, I started talking to my wife about buying a condo in the new development. I'm sure many other people are excited for this opportunity and would be devastated to lose it.

Investing in a new stadium demonstrates a commitment to the future of Tampa Bay, ensuring that generations to come can experience the pride and excitement of having a Major League Baseball team. There are only 30 cities that can claim an MLB team! Please appreciate what you have and fight to keep it for future generations! I urge you to approve funding for this critical project, which will benefit residents, businesses, and fans from near and far.



Eres, Christian L

From: Michelle Guerra <mguerra3111@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 9:59 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Funding Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Mr. Eggers,

Hope this email finds you well! I am writing to urge your full support for the proposed bond to fund the new Rays stadium. This project is not just about baseball; it is about the economic vitality, cultural pride, and national reputation of our community.

The Tampa Bay Rays are more than a sports team—they are a cornerstone of the Tampa Bay region's identity and an engine for economic growth. The loss of the Rays would have devastating consequences:

1. **Economic Impact:** A Major League Baseball franchise drives significant revenue for local businesses, creates jobs, and attracts tourism. Studies consistently show that cities with professional sports teams enjoy increased economic activity, both directly at stadium events and indirectly through hospitality, retail, and other local services. Losing the Rays would mean forfeiting these benefits and jeopardizing future growth opportunities.

As a season ticket holder that lives in Hillsborough County I travel to St. Pete to enjoy the games with my son and also support local businesses as well. We were thrilled when the new ballpark and development was approved. We are in absolute shock and saddened to hear that the new stadium may not move forward.

2. **Community Identity:** The Rays are woven into the fabric of Tampa Bay. Their games bring together fans of all backgrounds, fostering a sense of community pride. Losing this team would leave a void in our cultural landscape that no other entity can fill.

3. **National Perception:** If we fail to secure this deal, Tampa Bay risks being viewed as a region unable—or unwilling—to support professional sports. This perception could deter future investment, harm our reputation, and position us as a cautionary tale in the sports world.

The support for this deal across the community is overwhelming. Residents, business leaders, and local organizations recognize the importance of keeping the Rays in Tampa Bay and investing in a facility that reflects our commitment to excellence. The proposed bond is not just an expenditure; it is a down payment on our community's future success.

I implore you to think beyond the immediate cost and consider the long-term consequences of inaction. Let us ensure that Tampa Bay remains a vibrant, thriving region that celebrates its sports teams and the economic and cultural benefits they bring.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Michelle Guerra

Eres, Christian L

From: Scarlett <skinley@tampabay.rr.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 9:36 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Long, Janet C; Peters, Kathleen; Justice, Charlie; Latvala, Christopher; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Fwd: Our Beloved Rays

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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> Good evening Commissioners,
>
> Surely this is a stressful time for those of you that truly love and support our community. The many Rays fans that have been reaching out to you are very aware that our community has been devastated by the recent hurricanes. PLEASE DON'T ADD INSULT TO INJURY BY JEOPARDIZING THE FUTURE OF THE RAYS.
>
> The Tampa Bay Rays fan base extends much farther than local and statewide residents. Families travel to the area and support the local economy in numbers that are far more than the average citizen understands. Our senior citizens have come to love our Rays and have something to look forward to on most nights, even if they can't travel to the ballpark. Our St. Petersburg downtown is thriving and primed for a state of the art ball park.
>
> I implore each of you, to follow through with the funding and support of our community, its citizens and fans. It is an honor to be given the privilege of a MLB team, please do not take that privilege for granted. It is a loss that will affected generations and nothing good will come from it.
>
> Respectfully,
>
> Scarlett Kinley
> St. Petersburg resident and Rays fan since 1998
>
>

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of RRJarvis23 at aol.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 8:48 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Approve the Bonds! Keep the Rays! from Jason Crawford #30524268

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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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 Jason Crawford

Subject Approve the Bonds! Keep the Rays!

Message

Commissioners - I am a St Pete born and raised - graduating from Seminole High School. I live in Polk County now but still come to Pinellas County to visit my parents as well as many Rays games a season, usually including hotel stays. I was thrilled in the news of a new stadium deal was done and the Rays were staying.

I am deeply disappointed that your commission board will be the reason the Rays leave. Do the right thing for the county for today and the future and approve the bonds and lets get this stadium built. You saw what the Saints meant to New Orleans after Katrina and the Rays can do the same for Pinellas County. DO THE RIGHT THING!

Letting the Rays leave, will result in countless number of kids not receiving all the uniforms, sports equipment as well as other numerous organizations receiving things from the Rays. Less money will be spent in your county. If you think the proposed entertainment district will bring folks in without a Rays stadium, think again.

I will also make sure to never spend a penny in your county again. I will get gas in

Hillsborough before visiting my parents. I will make sure to bring food and other goods from home and by all means I will not visit a Pinellas County beach or stay in a hotel there ever again. Plenty of options in FL for all that, however, there is only 1 MLB team.

I travel and go to Bucs games and Lightning games. I go to concerts all thru out the area. I am only 46 however already looking retirement spots and investment opportunities. I was already looking at St Pete for a 2nd home and a weekend go to for Rays games. Now, I will start looking at the Nashville area thanks to your lack of ignorance and stupidity.

Your Street Address	1039 Snively Circle
City/Unincorporated County	Polk
Zip Code	33851
Your Email Address	RRJarvis23@aol.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Darren Jackson <djacko2@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 8:16 PM
To: Peters, Kathleen; Scott, Brian; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Eggers, Dave; Nowicki, Vince; csherer@pinellas.gov; Latvala, Christopher
Subject: Vote YES to Bonds to Fund Historic Gas Plant and Rays Stadium Project

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Good Evening,

There has been recent news and social media about certain Pinellas County commissioners that wish to scuttle the Historic Gas Plant and Rays Stadium funding by voting no to the bonds to fund these projects. It is distasteful and self-serving to use the recent natural disaster of Hurricane Milton as the excuse for this. It is further irrational to use the reason that the Rays are playing one season in Hillsborough County as if the Rays had any other choice. It is prudent for any rational person to understand that the Rays hand was forced and they have no other option for the 2025 season. To expect them to find a place in Pinellas County for 2025 and to hold the project hostage by using that for justification is downright sinister. Baycare Park in Clearwater and TD Park in Dunedin were not viable options for the Rays to play in this upcoming season for many reasons.

Traffic / Logistics - have you ever tried to drive to Dunedin during rush hour when weekday games occur? There are no major roadways. Let alone, Dunedin doesn't even have a parking lot. We attend many Dunedin Blue Jays games and Toronto Spring Training games. Parking and traffic are horrible even for those events that are way less attended. While getting to Baycare is a little better with US19 going by, the parking and traffic situation is still difficult and noticeably so during sold out events such as their 4th of July events. Steinbrenner field has easy access from Tampa airport, is convenient to Dale Mabry Hwy and I-4, as well as Hillsborough Avenue which are all major roadways. They have ample parking across the street at Raymond James stadium

Seating Capacity - Steinbrenner's capacity is around 11,000. Baycare is around 8500 (mind you 7500 seated and 1000 of that in the grass berm) and TD Ballpark is around 8500. That is a difference of 2,500 more seats at Steinbrenner per game. Multiply by 81 home games and that is 202,500 more fans to buy tickets and purchase concessions.

MLB Stadium Standards - Steinbrenner is the closest to being MLB ready in accordance with MLB and MLB Players Association standards. They have a renovated clubhouse, upgraded field lighting, expanded home locker room space, and improved training and rehabilitation capabilities.

For those few reasons above, it is simply unfathomable to expect them to stay in Pinellas for the 2025 season and to believe they should have otherwise, is illogical. This is for one temporary season, they did not ask for Tropicana Field to be destroyed and 2025 season would be played there if it weren't for that which is obviously outside of their control.

Now that we've debunked Councilmember Latvala's emotional reasons for wanting to vote NO as he apparently feels scorned by them playing at Steinbrenner and appears to want to vote with his feelings rather than his intellect, let's move on to the other reasons this project needs to be voted YES to approve the bonds to fund it.

- The Historic Gas Plant and Rays Stadium has already been through years of public processes and votes to approve it.
- The money from the bed taxes used to fund this can't be used to renovate and repair dwellings and other structures that were damaged by Hurricane Milton. They can only be used for certain purposes.
- The project has economic impacts that will benefit the community for decades to come.
 - Over \$465 million in total annual direct, indirect, and induced spending
 - More than 15,200 annual jobs (primarily in the sports, entertainment, food/beverage, retail, hospitality, and transportation industries)
 - Nearly \$387 million in annual wages
 - \$3.5 million in county sales and hotel taxes
 - More than 31,000 annual hotel room nights.

To vote NO on the bonds would simply be cutting off your nose to spite your face. I encourage you all to vote YES to fund the bonds for the Historic Gas Plant and Rays Stadium project.

Thank you for your time,

Darren Jackson (Pinellas County Resident)
1113 Cheshire Ct
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Sent from [Outlook](#)

Eres, Christian L

From: Michael Iliff <boltsbucsrays@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 8:04 PM
To: Latvala, Christopher; Scherer, Chris; Scott, Brian; Nowicki, Vince; Eggers, Dave; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@schererforpinellas.com; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Vote YES for Rays stadium bonds

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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As a Pinellas voter, I strongly urge you all to vote yes for the bonds this week. I will never support a candidate in the future who votes to relocate the Rays. Having MLB here is a huge feather in our cap and competitive advantage vs many other cities. Please, do the right thing and make this stadium happen!

Michael Iliff
St Petersburg, FL

Sent from my iPhone

Eres, Christian L

From: alan whitman <stikx22@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 7:09 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: "You don't know what you got till it's gone!"

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dave, I'm Alan Whitman, a Pinellas resident and season ticket holder. I always vote in every election and I pay taxes on 4 homes in Pinellas. It's very unfortunate that with the advancement of Climate Change that we had 2 very strong hurricanes back-to-back. This has affected us all and we've had to make some hard choices that we didn't want to make. Kind of like the choice the Rays are having to make. I sure wish that they didn't have to leave Pinellas but MLB and the players union have a lot of say in the matter. If I had my way they would play at Al Lang or Huggins Stengel park. But MLB is not going to listen to me or you. I'm sure that you are going to be concerned with your legacy and will want to be remembered as the guy who helped keep the Rays in Pinellas and not the guy who pushed them away. Do the right thing for the future! Alan Whitman, Pinellas taxpayer

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 6:48 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Stadium bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Kenneth Latta
Address	10426 Cirimoya Ln 10426 Cirimoya Ln, 10426 Cirimoya Ln 10426 Cirimoya Ln
Phone	+17272787327
Email	kclatta1980@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 6:36 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic New stadium bonds

BCC Agenda Date 11-19-2024

Your Stand on the Issue Support

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

Citizen Name Kenneth Latta

Address 10426 Cirimoya Ln
10426 Cirimoya Ln, 10426 Cirimoya Ln 10426 Cirimoya Ln

Phone +17272787327

Email kclatta1980@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of auntiejo at prodigy.net
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 5:16 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: TAMPA BAY RAYS STADIUM from JoAnne Pihlkar #30523919

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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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 René Flowers - District 7

Your Name JoAnne Pihlkar

Subject TAMPA BAY RAYS STADIUM

Message

Good day Commissioners. I understand some of you are not in favor of approving bonds for the new Rays stadium.

Please let me remind you that the Commission approved the funding in July prior to Milton damaging the Trop. The bed tac that would fund this stadium can only be used on quality of life projects, museums, beaches, and stadiums.

The Commission previously commissioned a study regarding the economic impact the Rays bring to this area - you have the report, so it's readily available for your perusal. Below is a glimpse of what's in that report.

"Over \$465 million in total annual direct, indirect, and induced spending

More than 15,200 annual jobs (primarily in the sports, entertainment, food/beverage, retail, hospitality, and transportation industries)

Nearly \$387 million in annual wages

\$3.5 million in county sales and hotel taxes

More than 31,000 annual hotel room nights.”

The Tampa Bay Area would hate to lose the Rays and the positive influence they have in this area. Please put aside your desire for political gain and think of the community that elected you. If the funding is not approved, are you all OK with losing all of the above positive economic impacts that the Rays bring and how would you go about recouping these economic gains?

Think about it.

Your Street Address	6485 Cape Sable way NE
City/Unincorporated County	St Petersburg
Zip Code	33702
Your Email Address	auntiejo@prodigy.net

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of auntiejo at prodigy.net
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 5:16 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: TAMPA BAY RAYS STADIUM from JoAnne Pihlkar #30523919

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5
Commissioner René Flowers - District 7

Your Name JoAnne Pihlkar

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City/Unincorporated County	St Petersburg
Zip Code	33702
Your Email Address	auntiejo@prodigy.net

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Eres, Christian L

From: Paul Carder <carder.paul@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 5:07 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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I am a resident of St. Pete; a supporter of the Rays; the stadium and the Gas Plant redevelopment; and concerned that the County Commission may not approve the bond issue necessary to the financing of the new stadium. I urge you to not delay and vote YES on the 19th and not go back on a commitment. Nor take an action that would increase the likelihood that the Rays would leave St. Pete, eliminating the anchor tenant for the Gas Plant development as well as the loss of hundreds of jobs and immense economic impact. Please.

Paul Carder
341 5th St. South
St. Petersburg
727.729.2299

Eres, Christian L

From: Paul Carder <carder.paul@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 5:07 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Paul Carder
341 5th St. South
St. Petersburg
727.729.2299

Eres, Christian L

From: Steven French <rhinolien@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 4:34 PM
To: Peters, Kathleen; Scott, Brian; Latvala, Christopher; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Scherer, Chris; Nowicki, Vince; Eggers, Dave
Subject: Support for Rays funding

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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I'm a Sarasota resident who goes to 15-20 games a year, I spend my money at local establishments before , after games , and even stay the night in hotels a few times a year . I get I'm pretty much nobody to you all but just wanted to say I hope you vote to continue to fund the new stadium . I understand the frustration of losing some revenue for a year , or a few if Trop isn't repaired . But the lasting impact it will have if the Rays never play in St Pete again far out weigh the year or few without them playing in a Pinellas venue with a capacity of around 10,000. I get many of you already have your minds made up but I hope you do what's best for St Pete in the long run.

Eres, Christian L

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Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 4:34 PM
To: Peters, Kathleen; Scott, Brian; Latvala, Christopher; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Scherer, Chris; Nowicki, Vince; Eggers, Dave
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Eres, Christian L

From: Staci <sldeck@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 4:21 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Vote for the Rays' Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Mr. Eggers,

I am writing to urge your full support for the proposed bond to fund the new Rays stadium. This project is not just about baseball; it is about the economic vitality, cultural pride, and national reputation of our community. The Tampa Bay Rays are more than a sports team—they are a cornerstone of our region's identity and an engine for economic growth. The loss of the Rays would have devastating consequences:

1 Economic Impact: A Major League Baseball franchise drives significant revenue for local businesses, creates jobs, and attracts tourism. Studies consistently show that cities with professional sports teams enjoy increased economic activity, both directly at stadium events and indirectly through hospitality, retail, and other local services. Losing the Rays would mean forfeiting these benefits and jeopardizing future growth opportunities.

2 Community Identity: The Rays are woven into the fabric of Tampa Bay. Their games bring together fans of all backgrounds, fostering a sense of community pride. Losing this team would leave a void in our cultural landscape that no other entity can fill.

3 National Perception: If we fail to secure this deal, Tampa Bay risks being viewed as a region unable—or unwilling—to support professional sports. This perception could deter future investment, harm our reputation, and position us as a cautionary tale in the sports world.

The support for this deal across the community is overwhelming. Residents, business leaders, and local organizations recognize the importance of keeping the Rays in Tampa Bay and investing in a facility that reflects our commitment to excellence. The proposed bond is not just an expenditure; it is a down payment on our community's future success.

I implore you to think beyond the immediate cost and consider the long-term consequences of inaction. Let us ensure that Tampa Bay remains a vibrant, thriving region that celebrates its sports teams and the economic and cultural benefits they bring.

Sincerely,

Staci L Deck, Concerned Fan, Community Contributor, Emergency Department Nurse
4860 Parkhurst Place
Jacksonville, FL 32256
904-424-4667 cell

*Yes, I travel to St. Pete to see the Rays!

Sent from my iPhone

Eres, Christian L

From: Amber Simpson <asimpson120687@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:55 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium Deal

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Dave Eggers,

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The Tampa Bay Rays are more than a sports team—they are a cornerstone of our region's identity and an engine for economic growth. The loss of the Rays would have devastating consequences:

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Sincerely,
Amber Simpson
St.Petersburg Native
727-667-1496

Eres, Christian L

From: Amber Simpson <asimpson120687@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:55 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium Deal

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Amber Simpson
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727-667-1496

Eres, Christian L

From: Brian Fox c/o Foxman Music <foxman_music@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:04 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays stadium deal

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Commissioner Eggers,

I know you are very busy, so I will keep my message brief & to the point. Please vote in favor of funding for the Rays new stadium deal. The constant drama & delays are exhausting. Thank you for your time & Go RAYS!!!

Sincerely,
Brian Fox

Eres, Christian L

From: John Vericker <jmv1974@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 2:30 PM
To: Long, Janet C; Scott, Brian; Justice, Charlie; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene
Subject: Tampa Season Ticket Holder

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Commissioners:

I would urge you to approve the bonds for the Rays Stadium. As a Tampa resident whose company has four season tickets our employees spend a lot of money at Tropicana Field because of the Rays. Without these tickets our Tampa based employees would not go to St. Pete and spend money very often.

Please vote to keep the Rays in St. Pete.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Eres, Christian L

From: John Carpenter Jr <bsce96@verizon.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 2:20 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Report Suspicious

Commissioner Eggers,

The time has come to finalize the Rays stadium deal. The Tampa Bay Rays are vital to the economic prosperity and future of Pinellas County.

Thanks

John

Eres, Christian L

From: Hare <hjh1869@verizon.net>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 1:30 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Long, Janet C; Peters, Kathleen; Justice, Charlie; Latvala, Christopher; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Tuesday's Bond Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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>
> Good evening Commissioners
> Thank you for your service to the community. This email is sent with an utmost urgency in addressing the upcoming vote Tuesday. This is more than a vote for the Rays new stadium. This is a vote for the continued growth in the community. A lack of funding for a new stadium not only negatively affects the Rays, their employees, their families but also the community in its entirety.
>
> The Tampa Bay Rays fan base extends much farther than local and statewide residents. Families travel to the area and support the local economy in numbers that are far more than the average citizen understands.
>
> For our area to be devastated by two hurricanes was already a financial and emotional loss, but to withhold funding for this project is irresponsible at the highest level.
>
> I implore each of you, to follow through with the funding and support of our community, its citizens and fans.
>
> Voting against the bond issuance is simply a personal political ploy that cannot and will not be accepted.
>
> It is an honor to be given the privilege of a MLB team, please do not take that privilege for granted. It is a loss that will affected generations and nothing good will come from it.
>
> Respectfully,
>
>
> Heather Clark
> Director, Human Resources and Benefits
> Designated Corporate Representative
> Employment and Workers Compensation Litigation
> SouthEast Personnel Leasing

Eres, Christian L

From: Heather Hare <hjhare1869@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 1:29 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Long, Janet C; Peters, Kathleen; Justice, Charlie; Latvala, Christopher; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Tuesday's Bond Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Heather Clark

- >
- > Good morning County Commissioners
- >
- > My first email was sent focusing on facts surrounding the financial aspects of the bond vote and the impact losing the Rays will have for years to come. This email is a heartfelt request as a die hard fan.
- >
- > I live in Pasco County, near 54 and Gunn Hwy. Not a short trip to St Pete. However, since the early 2000's we make that trip 20-40 times a year. Less frequent while my daughter played travel and collegiate softball, but still dozens of times a season.
- >
- > We travel throughout the country to support our local team. This year alone it was Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Baltimore. We go to many spring training games, including games in Dunedin and Clearwater.
- >
- > The company my husband and I have worked for in Pasco County for over two decades are season ticket holders. Although, we can go to many games with these tickets, we purchase 2/3 of our tickets right behind the dugout. We come right from work during the week and have dinner before games. Weekend games we spend the day supporting local.
- >
- > Our daughter was raised watching the Rays. Evan Longoria was her favorite player and she graduated from college as an All American at 3rd base.
- >
- > We purchased our home because it had an upstairs bonus room, for which we could display all of our Tampa Bay Rays memorabilia. Which includes individually autographed balls from every member of the team and coaching staff from the 2008 World Series. To say we are diehard fans is an understatement.
- >
- > I will close by saying that being afforded a MLB team is an honor and privilege and should not be taken for granted. This unfortunate situation is not a choice by the Rays to leave St Pete, it was two back to back natural disasters that devastated our community, please don't allow a vote against the bonds to further harm not only the economic aspect of Pinellas County but emotional need the residents and fans have to see our Rays stay.
- >

> These photos are 16 years apart. There are many more fans, not just in our area but across the country and world who are just like my family.

>



>



- >
- >
- > Heather Clark
- > Director, Human Resources and Benefits
- > Designated Corporate Representative
- > Employment and Workers Compensation Litigation
- > SouthEast Personnel Leasing
- >

Eres, Christian L

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Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 1:29 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Long, Janet C; Peters, Kathleen; Justice, Charlie; Latvala, Christopher; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Tuesday's Bond Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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>



- >
- >
- > Heather Clark
- > Director, Human Resources and Benefits
- > Designated Corporate Representative
- > Employment and Workers Compensation Litigation
- > SouthEast Personnel Leasing
- >

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 11:19 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Tampa Bay Rays
BCC Agenda Date	11-18-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Randi Dixon
Address	545 43rd Ave N Saint Petersburg, FL 33703
Phone	+17274174916
Email	Luvmyrays@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:47 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Stadium bond vote
BCC Agenda Date	11-21-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Robert Heyman
Address	111 2nd Ave Ne Ste 1001 111 2nd Ave Ne Ste 1001, 111 2nd Ave Ne Ste 1001 111 2nd Ave Ne Ste 1001
Phone	+17274155991
Email	bob@heymanlawfirm.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of ulrich28 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays from Lisa Ulrich #30523120

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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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 Lisa Ulrich

Subject Rays

Message It is with great regret you are killing the Rays deal. After commitments it is awful that you change your mind. This is terrible news for our county and city. Sorely disappointed and will reflect on all in the future..

Your Street Address 880 Eden Isle Blvd NE

City/Unincorporated County St. Petersburg

Zip Code 33704

Your Phone Number 7276433236

Your Email Address ulrich28@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of ulrich28 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays from Lisa Ulrich #30523120

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Your Name Lisa Ulrich

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Your Street Address 880 Eden Isle Blvd NE

City/Unincorporated County St. Petersburg

Zip Code 33704

Your Phone Number 7276433236

Your Email Address ulrich28@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Ronald Diner <rondiner@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 8:40 AM
To: vince@vincenowicki.com; Chris Scherer; Peters, Kathleen; Brian Scott; Latvala, Christopher; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Eggers, Dave
Subject: Our future depends on your votes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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County Commissioners:

On Tuesday, you will be making a vote of historic significance to Pinellas County and St. Petersburg - the vote to approve or reject the sale of bonds to provide funds for a new baseball stadium.

I strongly urge you to vote No - do not authorize Pinellas County to issue bonds to build a stadium. I don't think it is too strong to say that the future of our economy, our homes, our beaches, our infrastructures, and our jobs depend on it. I know you agree we need to focus on what matters to make life better for all the citizens of Pinellas County. We are counting on you to not be blinded by a shiny object. - a pretty picture of a stadium. - but to do what is right.

My recommendation is based on:

1. The significant impact of two hurricanes on our beaches and our homes and our economy and as a result where we need to refocus our resources.
2. The more likely risk of future storms.
3. The uncertain sources of funds to repair the beaches now and to repair them when future storms are sure to come.
4. The risks to our tourism industry and the impact of that risk on more than 90,000 people's jobs - jobs that depend on tourism.
5. The undeniable facts that baseball does not drive economic growth and is not a significant source of tourism.
6. The Gas Plant site is ready for development and a stadium will not enhance that development. In some respects, the stadium will actually hurt development - traffic congestion, and a detraction from office and residential development. Thus, the property will generate the county's share of real estate taxes from its development more quickly without a stadium. (Why is it reported that Rays/Hines are still interested in

developing the property even without a stadium? They must also agree - contrary to what they said when they competed for the deal when they, the city and the chambers of commerce said that the stadium is an anchor for other development. The development of the rest of the property would be an anchor for a stadium.)

7. The development of the land that would have been set aside for a stadium, will now be developed for commercial purposes, generating additional Pinellas County property taxes.

In July, when the Pinellas County Commission voted to authorize the use of Tourist Development Tax revenue to fund the Rays baseball stadium in St. Petersburg, it seems that those who voted in favor based their decision on:

1. Current Tourist Development Tax (TDT) reserves were sufficient for the current needs to re-nourish the beaches and future TDT funds would be sufficient in the event of any emergencies - like a hurricane, should one ever hit our coast.

2. Spending \$312.5 million of TDT (\$600 including interest) on a stadium was consistent with the goals for the use of TDT. There were no higher priorities.

Fast forward to today, and those assumptions are being sorely tested. Who would have thought we could hit by not one but two hurricanes and the impact on our community. And now I hope you would agree, we are all worried that we can get hit by future storms.

Regarding the beaches, the beaches lost 30 years worth of beach re-nourishment from hurricanes Helene and Milton - and the cost of repairs - as much as \$130 million.

To make the repairs, not only does it appear that the county will need to dig into the emergency funds and more (no one could anticipate the damage TWO hurricanes would bring), there is no guarantee that either the federal government or the state will help pay the cost of repairs. And what about the \$130 million we will need after the next storm?

Immediately after the storms, there had been some hopeful signs from the Biden administration about funding. However, we've been in a holding pattern since November's election, and who knows if Trump will be as favorable to giving us support.

Can we afford to wait much longer? The longer we wait, the more the homes and infrastructure along the coast are exposed to further erosion.

Can the county still afford to fund a baseball stadium based on where things stand?

Pinellas County has been gut punched by two storms in two weeks - something we never thought would happen. But now, with all of us worrying about when the next storm will hit our homes, trying to decide if we should rebuild or not, don't we have to worry about the next time our beaches will be torn about? And the impact on our homes? And the possibility that it might happen more often?

No matter the reason, the waters of the Gulf of Mexico are warmer and warmer water breeds hurricanes. Never before now have we ever seen a hurricane form in the western part of the Gulf and move directly east at us. But not that it has is happened everyone worries it can happen again.

With these real worries in mind, we need to have the funds for regular beach repairs. The beaches are the number one reason tourists come to Pinellas County, and tourism supports more than 90,000 jobs in the county, contributing over \$2.9 billion in wages. (The Visit St. Pete/Clearwater's own report shows that, when queried, 40% of visitors come to our area for the beaches, the pier, the restaurants and the museums. Only 4% said they visit here for sporting events.)

Regarding the economic and real state tax benefit of a stadium, more than 100 economic studies show that professional sports stadiums do not generate economic benefits. In the case of the Rays, they generate very limited tourism.

Owners of baseball teams want to locate their teams in areas with fast growth in the hopes it will increase attendance - not the other way around.

I have attached here: [Last chance to avoid a major mistake](#) , what I wrote to each of you who were commissioners in July. I stand by everything I wrote then. And profoundly, what I wrote about the need to focus on our infrastructure and our beaches has now come true.

I have also attached the [Full Facts and Analysis](#) which we published on www.nohomerun.com.

I hope you will read both documents.

My other thoughts are on www.homerunsmatter.com.

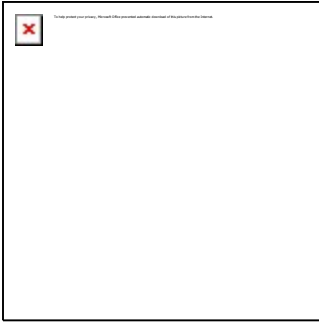
In conclusion:

1. Two hurricanes have changed everything.
2. We don't need a stadium to see the economic, tourist and real estate tax benefits from the development of the Gras Plant property.
3. Everyone knew then and they know now that the approval of the deal with Rays/Hines to build a stadium and for them to develop the rest of the property was a two step process of approval by the county and the city. That the deal was not a done deal until both steps happened. In no way should you feel pressured by recent articles in the press.

We need to do what is right for the citizens of Pinellas County.

If I am can be helpful in anyway, please call me.

Thanks.



Last chance to avoid a major mistake

In July, I posted my comments below. Now, after two hurricanes, it is clear we cannot afford the Rays/Hines deal and the county commissioners should not vote to borrow funds for a new stadium. We need to save the money for the more frequent need to re-nourish our beaches - from the hurricanes that are likely to be in our future. Here is my July, 2024 email to the County Commissioners - County Commissioners: I want to provide my thoughts on the workshop you had recently about the Rays/Hines pr

www.nohomerun.com

Ron Diner
727 510 8750

Eres, Christian L

From: Heather Clark <heather.c@spli.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 8:12 AM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Long, Janet C; Peters, Kathleen; Justice, Charlie; Latvala, Christopher; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Tuesday's Bond Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Good morning County Commissioners

My first email was sent focusing on facts surrounding the financial aspects of the bond vote and the impact losing the Rays will have for years to come. This email is a heartfelt request as a die hard fan.

I live in Pasco County, near 54 and Gunn Hwy. Not a short trip to St Pete. However, since the early 2000's we make that trip 20-40 times a year. Less frequent while my daughter played travel and collegiate softball, but still dozens of times a season.

We travel throughout the country to support our local team. This year alone it was Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Baltimore. We go to many spring training games, including games in Dunedin and Clearwater.

The company my husband and I have worked for in Pasco County for over two decades are season ticket holders. Although, we can go to many games with these tickets, we purchase 2/3 of our tickets right behind the dugout. We come right from work during the week and have dinner before games. Weekend games we spend the day supporting local.

Our daughter was raised watching the Rays. Evan Longoria was her favorite player and she graduated from college as an All American at 3rd base.

We purchased our home because it had an upstairs bonus room, for which we could display all of our Tampa Bay Rays memorabilia. Which includes individually autographed balls from every member of the team and coaching staff from the 2008 World Series. To say we are diehard fans is an understatement.

I will close by saying that being afforded a MLB team is an honor and privilege and should not be taken for granted. This unfortunate situation is not a choice by the Rays to leave St Pete, it was two back to back natural disasters that devastated our community, please don't allow a vote against the bonds to further harm not only the economic aspect of Pinellas County but emotional need the residents and fans have to see our Rays stay.

These photos are 16 years apart. There are many more fans, not just in our area but across the country and world who are just like my family.





Heather Clark
Director, Human Resources and Benefits
Designated Corporate Representative
Employment and Workers Compensation Litigation
SouthEast Personnel Leasing

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Eres, Christian L

From: Steve Westphal <steve@gotosteves.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 7:10 AM
To: Scott, Brian; Scherer, Chris; Eggers, Dave; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Nowicki, Vince
Subject: Fwd: Save st pete

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Steve Westphal
(727) 418-1658
www.gotosteves.com
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Steve Westphal <steve@gotosteves.com>
Date: November 17, 2024 at 6:50:32 AM EST
To: clatvala@pinellas.gov
Subject: Save st pete

I urgently request that you support our gas plant project as intended for the future of our hometown Rays and the continued growth of our great city, county and state. Much work has been done to lay the groundwork for this area. The correct vision will ensure more prosperity, equality and diversity for generations to come.

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(727) 418-1658
www.gotosteves.com
Sent from my iPhone

Eres, Christian L

From: Doug Battista <dabattista@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 12:48 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Letter from a Pinellas resident

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Mr. Eggers,

My name is Doug Battista. I am a resident of Palm Harbor in Pinellas County.

I am writing to share a personal story of my 8-year old son, who has a severe anxiety disorder called selective mutism. His condition causes him to panic and avoid other human beings, and as a result, he becomes a mute in front of other people. Up until a year ago, he would not attend gatherings with large groups of people and struggled in school - as he refused to speak or interact with other kids.

We moved to Florida 1.5 years ago, and I convinced my son to go to a Rays game. He was hesitant, and I wasn't sure that I would be able to get him to go through the entrance to the stadium. But he did, and made it through entire game without panic. He was fixated on the game and afterwards, he asked me if we could attend another game in the future.

Since this time, my son - through a mixture of therapies - is progressing. He has become a huge fan of the Rays, collects their baseball cards, and proudly wears his Rays shirts. We attended six games at the Trop this year and watched numerous on TV

I know that you are likely under intense pressure regarding the upcoming vote on the bonds for the gas plant project. As a citizen of Pinellas county, I kindly request your vote of 'yes.' Losing the Rays would be devastating for my son - and the bond we created while attending games.

Thank you for reading my letter and request.

Best,
Doug Battista
Crystal Beach (Palm Harbor) resident
760-576-6194

Eres, Christian L

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Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 12:48 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Letter from a Pinellas resident

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760-576-6194

Eres, Christian L

From: Rob Selg <robselg@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 12:28 AM
To: Scottbrscott@pinellas.gov; Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; vince@vincenowicki.com; ryan.adelberg@stpete.org; brandi.gabbard@stpete.org; lisset.hanewicz@stpete.org; deborah.figgs-sanders@stpete.org; gina.driscoll@stpete.org; John.Muhammad@stpete.org; richie.floyd@stpete.org
Subject: Stadium Funding
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed
Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Mr. Latvala and fellow Commissioners,

My entire email will be about money. Simple enough.

I live in Town 'N' Country and spend most of my time here in Hillsborough. That means most of my money is spent on goods here in Hillsborough.

But I love to travel, and I am a gigantic Rays fan.

Let's hit on that travel part first.

I am what we call ourselves a "Ballpark Chaser". A Ballpark Chasers goal is to see a game in every MLB ballpark. I myself am in the process of seeing the Rays play in every MLB ballpark. I currently have 5 stadiums left. When I travel I often go for several days which includes multiple day hotel stays, eating at several restaurants, frequent stops at convenient stores, etc. I spend a lot of money in those cities. And why? To see the Rays play.

I am not the only Ballpark Chaser that I know. I am in a Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ballparkchasers>) that has 91,000 fellow chasers.

This 91,000 doesn't represent every Ballpark Chaser out there. All 91,000+ will visit a new stadium in Pinellas, and will book hotels, and will eat at the local restaurants, etc.

Now in regard to me being a gigantic Rays fan. When I go to the Trop I make a day of it.

My last trip to the Trop was a sad one. It was Saturday September 26th. I walked around the shell of its old self to see the damaged roof myself. I drove from Town 'N' Country just to see it with my own eyes. But while in St. Petersburg I did what I do every time. I shopped locally.

I needed something to cheer me up, so I went over to Cereal Bar for some cereal infused ice cream. I then filled up on some gas. And then on the way home I stopped at the Walmart in Pinellas Park and got some groceries.

My previous visit to the Trop was for Fred McGriff's induction into the Rays HOF. After that game I stopped at the Metro Diner on 4th street.

This is a trend with me before or after Rays games and I am sure I am not the only one.

I have been to many Major League cities, and I have seen how a ballpark can tie a city together.

Please give St. Pete and Pinellas this future opportunity.

Rob S.

Admin of

Tampa Bay Rays Fan Club

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TBRaysFanClub>

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To: Scottbrscott@pinellas.gov; Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; vince@vincenowicki.com; ryan.adelberg@stpete.org; brandi.gabbard@stpete.org; lisset.hanewicz@stpete.org; deborah.figgs-sanders@stpete.org; gina.driscoll@stpete.org; John.Muhammad@stpete.org; richie.floyd@stpete.org
Subject: Stadium Funding

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Tampa Bay Rays Fan Club

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TBRaysFanClub>

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 3:08 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Voting YES for the Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Sandra Young
Address	6485 Cape Sable Way NE Unit 2 St Petersburg, FL 33702
Phone	+1(813) 2443475
Email	sandy.young61@yahoo.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Primal Pole, & Prana LLC <primalpoleprana@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:09 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: St. Pete Cali says YES!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Hi there,

I am reaching out directly to relay how important this Gas Plant District project is to me, my family, and my budding business. My husband and I opened St. Pete Calisthenics in 2023 and have been hosting classes in many of our beautiful local parks until August of 2024 when we secured our dream location at 1960 5th Ave South (the former Kozuba & Sons Distillery). According to the plans for this area, the beautiful trail under the interstate will end ~directly~ at our door and we firmly and deeply believe this will bring many people through the doors of St. Pete's very first and only [premier, all inclusive wellness center](#). The foot traffic this will produce for St. Pete Calisthenics is projected to have a great impact, not only for us but the rest of the entrepreneur community in this area. A lot of us are banking on this deal to continue in motion. *Please vote yes to move this forward!*

Have a beautiful week!

Mrs. Tyler Turner
[St. Pete Calisthenics](#)
727 - 253 - 7018

P.S. We are continuing to seek private investors who share similar core values (listed below) to St. Pete Cali and want to provide the entire Tampa Bay Area with a groundbreaking, innovative, all in one wellness facility. Our current primary investment team consists of Cathie Wood of Ark Invest, local duo Jim Bedinghaus (architect) & Eileen Bedinghaus (realtor), and Army Special Forces Veteran James Lodyga.

St. Pete Cali's Core Values:

- ~ Authenticity,
- ~ Perseverance,
- ~ Growth,
- ~ Holistic,
- ~ Flexibility

If you are interested in more information, I am more than happy to send over our investor packet. Thank you for your time!

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of stevecona at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:00 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Support for the Approval of Bonds for the New Stadium from Steve Cona #30526308

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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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
- County Administrator

Your Name Steve Cona

Subject Support for the Approval of Bonds for the New Stadium

Message

Dear Pinellas County Commissioners,

On behalf of the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) Florida Gulf Coast Chapter, I am writing to express our strong support for the approval of bonds to fund the new stadium in the Historic Gas Plant District.

ABC represents over 620 companies in the region, encompassing a workforce of more than 70,000 employees. Many of these individuals are highly skilled construction professionals who stand ready to contribute their expertise to this transformative project.

We believe the new stadium will not only enhance the region's stature as a Major League Baseball (MLB) destination but will also generate significant economic benefits for our community. MLB has long been a driver of local economic growth, creating jobs,

attracting visitors, and spurring investment in surrounding businesses. The proposed stadium project is an opportunity to further these impacts, supporting our skilled workforce and benefiting Pinellas County residents and businesses for years to come. Moreover, the use of bed-tax funds for this project is both fiscally responsible and strategic. These funds, which are designated for projects like this, cannot be used for housing or other general expenses. Investing them in the stadium will ensure a strong return, generating revenue for reinvestment in our community.

As an organization dedicated to building a stronger future for the Gulf Coast, we urge the Commission to approve the bonds and move this project forward. The decision represents an investment not only in a world-class facility but in the hardworking men and women who make up our region's construction industry and broader economy.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to Pinellas County's future. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can provide additional support or information.

Your Street Address	12910 FRAMINGHAM CT
City/Unincorporated County	Tampa
Zip Code	33626
Your Phone Number	8133108557
Your Email Address	stevecona@gmail.com

This email was sent as a result of a form being completed.

[Report unwanted email.](#)



Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:57 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: FW: Letter from resident of Pinellas

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: Doug Battista <dabattista@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 1:01 AM
To: Long, Janet C <JanetCLong@pinellas.gov>
Subject: Letter from resident of Pinellas

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[Report Suspicious](#)

Dear Ms. Long

My name is Doug Battista. I am a resident of Palm Harbor in Pinellas County.

I am writing to share a personal story of my 8-year old son, who has a severe anxiety disorder called selective mutism. His condition causes him to panic and avoid other human beings, and as a result, he becomes a mute in front of other people. Up until a year ago, he would not attend gatherings with large groups of people and struggled in school - as he refused to speak or interact with other kids.

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Since this time, my son - through a mixture of therapies - is progressing. He has become a huge fan of the Rays, collects their baseball cards, and proudly wears his Rays shirts. We attended six games at the Trop this year and watched numerous on TV

I know your term is ending, and I don't know if you will be involved with the vote on the bonds to fund the gas plant project. However, if you are able to vote, as citizen of Pinellas county, I kindly request your vote of 'yes.' Losing the Rays would be devastating for my son - and the bond we created while attending games.

Thank you for reading my letter and request.

Best,
Doug Battista
Crystal Beach (Palm Harbor) resident
760-576-6194

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:56 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: FW: Keep the Rays

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: Ron Torrance <rnt@regentampabay.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 5:06 PM
To: Long, Janet C <JanetCLong@pinellas.gov>
Subject: Keep the Rays

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Ms. Long,

Please vote to keep the Rays.

Thank you.



Ron Torrance II, DO FAOASM
*Regenerative Sports Medicine
Physician,
Regenexx at NROFL*

P Srq: 941-357-1773;Tpa: 813-544-3123
M 9413231765
E ront@regentampabay.com
F 941-256-7452
SRQ 5630 Marquesas Circle



TPA 8600 Hidden River Pkwy Suite 700
St Pete 100 2nd Ave S St 904S
Orlando 1412 Trovillion Avenue
W <https://newregenortho.com>

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Eres, Christian L

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

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:25 AM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Rays Stadium Bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Christopher Talley
Address	920 43rd Ave NE St. Petersburg, FL 33703
Phone	+17274037992
Email	Crtalley@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:51 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: FW: Rays Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: jonathan johns <jonathanjohns@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 11:13 AM
To: Long, Janet C <JanetCLong@pinellas.gov>
Subject: Rays Vote

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Representative Long,

Please vote to keep the Rays here long term and to fund them. Personally, I can't imagine my parents, who are older, without the Rays. Also, using a hurricane as an excuse for this is beyond low. Both my parents and I have experienced hurricane damage firsthand. After a hurricane we come together to help each other not use it for some advantage.

Thank you,
Jonathan Johns

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:47 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Cc: O'Donnell, Stacy
Subject: FW:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:05 AM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Bonds for Rays Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	William Gutwein
Address	6575 99th Way N Saint Petersburg, FL 33708
Phone	+15028213437
Email	fritzg@mac.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:46 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Cc: O'Donnell, Stacy
Subject: FW:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 1:37 PM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Historic Gas Plant District bond issuance
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Jim Dietrich
Address	1863 76th Ave N Saint Petersburg, FL 33702
Phone	
Email	eaglesfanintampa@yahoo.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:45 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Cc: O'Donnell, Stacy
Subject: FW:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 3:09 PM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Rays Bond \$ Approval
BCC Agenda Date	
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Curtis Cruise
Address	100 1st Ave N #2506 St. Pete, FL 33701
Phone	+17275156673
Email	cwwcruise@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:45 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Cc: O'Donnell, Stacy
Subject: FW:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 8:24 PM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic Gas Plant Redevelopment Plan and Tampa Bay Rays new Stadium
BCC Agenda Date 11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue Support
Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name Theresa Jones
Address 4055 3rd Ave S
4055 3rd Ave S, 4055 3rd Ave S 4055 3rd Ave S
Phone +1+17275507499
Email tdjones67.tj@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:43 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Cc: O'Donnell, Stacy
Subject: FW:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:47 AM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Stadium bond vote
BCC Agenda Date	11-21-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Robert Heyman
Address	111 2nd Ave Ne Ste 1001 111 2nd Ave Ne Ste 1001, 111 2nd Ave Ne Ste 1001 111 2nd Ave Ne Ste 1001
Phone	+17274155991
Email	bob@heymanlawfirm.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:43 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Cc: O'Donnell, Stacy
Subject: FW:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 11:19 AM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Tampa Bay Rays
BCC Agenda Date	11-18-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Randi Dixon
Address	545 43rd Ave N Saint Petersburg, FL 33703
Phone	+17274174916
Email	Luvmyrays@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Norman Dayan <nddpm@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:41 AM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Latvala, Christopher; kpeters@pinellasl.gov; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@schererforpinellas.com; vince@vincenmowicki.com
Subject: Stadium Bond Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear County Commissioners

On Tuesday, you will be making a vote of historic significance to Pinellas County and St. Petersburg – the vote to approve or reject the sale of bonds to provide funds for a new baseball stadium.

I strongly urge you to vote No – do not authorize Pinellas County to issue bonds to build a stadium. I don't think it is too strong to say that the future of our economy, our homes, our beaches, our infrastructures, and our jobs depend on it. I know you agree we need to focus on what matters to make life better for all the citizens of Pinellas County. We are counting on you to not be blinded by a shiny object. – a pretty picture of a stadium – but to do what is right.

My recommendation is based on:

1. The significant impact of two hurricanes on our beaches and our homes and our economy and as a result where we need to refocus our resources.
2. The more likely risk of future storms.
3. The uncertain sources of funds to repair the beaches now and to repair them when future storms are sure to come.
4. The risks to our tourism industry and the impact of that risk on more than 90,000 people's jobs – jobs that depend on tourism.
5. The undeniable facts that baseball does not drive economic growth and is not a significant source of tourism.
6. The Gas Plant site is ready for development and a stadium will not enhance that development. In some respects, the stadium will actually hurt development – traffic congestion, and a detraction from office and residential development. Thus, the property will generate the county's share of real estate taxes from its

development more quickly without a stadium. (Why is it reported that Rays/Hines are still interested in developing the property even without a stadium? They must also agree – contrary to what they said when they competed for the deal when they, the city and the chambers of commerce said that the stadium is an anchor for other development. The development of the rest of the property would be an anchor for a stadium.)

7. The development of the land that would have been set aside for a stadium, will now be developed for commercial purposes, generating additional Pinellas County property taxes.

In July, when the Pinellas County Commission voted to authorize the use of Tourist Development Tax revenue to fund the Rays baseball stadium in St. Petersburg, it seems that those who voted in favor based their decision on:

1. Current Tourist Development Tax (TDT) reserves were sufficient for the current needs to re-nourish the beaches and future TDT funds would be sufficient in the event of any emergencies – like a hurricane, should one ever hit our coast.
2. Spending \$312.5 million of TDT (\$600 including interest) on a stadium was consistent with the goals for the use of TDT. There were no higher priorities.

Fast forward to today, and those assumptions are being sorely tested. Who would have thought we could hit by not one but two hurricanes and the impact on our community. And now I hope you would agree, we are all worried that we can get hit by future storms.

Regarding the beaches, the beaches lost 30 years worth of beach re-nourishment from hurricanes Helene and Milton – and the cost of repairs – as much as \$130 million.

To make the repairs, not only does it appear that the county will need to dig into the emergency funds and more (no one could anticipate the damage TWO hurricanes would bring), there is no guarantee that either the federal government or the state will help pay the cost of repairs. And what about the \$130 million we will need after the next storm?

Immediately after the storms, there had been some hopeful signs from the Biden administration about funding. However, we've been in a holding pattern since November's election, and who knows if Trump will be as favorable to giving us support.

Can we afford to wait much longer? The longer we wait, the more the homes and infrastructure along the coast are exposed to further erosion.

Can the county still afford to fund a baseball stadium based on where things stand?

Pinellas County has been gut punched by two storms in two weeks – something we never thought would happen. But now, with all of us worrying about when the next storm will hit our homes, trying to decide if we should rebuild or not, don't we have to worry about the next time our beaches will be torn about? And the impact on our homes? And the possibility that it might happen more often?

No matter the reason, the waters of the Gulf of Mexico are warmer and warmer water breeds hurricanes. Never before now have we ever seen a hurricane form in the western part of the Gulf and move directly east at us. But now that it has happened, everyone worries it can happen again.

With these real worries in mind, we need to have the funds for regular beach repairs. The beaches are the number one reason tourists come to Pinellas County, and tourism supports more than 90,000 jobs in the county, contributing over \$2.9 billion in wages. (The Visit St. Pete/Clearwater's own report shows that, when queried, 40% of visitors come to our area for the beaches, the pier, the restaurants and the museums. Only 4% said they visit here for sporting events.)

Regarding the economic and real state tax benefit of a stadium, more than 100 economic studies show that professional sports stadiums do not generate economic benefits. In the case of the Rays, they generate very limited tourism.

Owners of baseball teams want to locate their teams in areas with fast growth in the hopes it will increase attendance – not the other way around.

I have attached here: [*Last chance to avoid a major mistake*](#), what I wrote to each of you who were commissioners in July. I stand by everything I wrote then. And profoundly, what I wrote about the need to focus on our infrastructure and our beaches has now come true.

I have also attached the [Full Facts and Analysis](#) which we published on www.nohomerun.com.

I hope you will read both documents.

My other thoughts are on www.homerunsmatter.com.

In conclusion:

1. Two hurricanes have changed everything.
2. We don't need a stadium to see the economic, tourist and real estate tax benefits from the development of the Gras Plant property.
3. Everyone knew then and they know now that the approval of the deal with Rays/Hines to build a stadium and for them to develop the rest of the property was a two step process of approval by the county and the city. That the deal was not a done deal until both steps happened. In no way should you feel pressured by recent articles in the press.

We need to do what is right for the citizens of Pinellas County.

If I am can be helpful in anyway, please contact me.

Eres, Christian L

From: Jonathan Johns <coachjjh2a@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:26 AM
To: Jonathan Johns
Subject: Vote for the Rays and the future.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Representative,

I am a resident of Hilton Head, South Carolina, and a regular visitor to the North Shore Aquatic Complex for the annual swim meets hosted by the International Swim Coaches Association (ISCA), including the prestigious East Elite Showcase. Our team, alongside groups from Charleston, South Carolina; Atlanta, Georgia; and Columbia, Maryland, makes this event an annual highlight. Together, we contribute over 100 families who visit, rent accommodations, dine locally, and attend Tampa Bay Rays games, boosting the local economy significantly.

These meets attract Olympic-caliber swimmers from across the country, with a unique draw being Tampa's blend of high-level competition and the opportunity to experience Rays baseball. Our team alone has previously booked out the Hampton Inn and rented additional beachside accommodations. Across 45 participating teams, the economic impact is substantial.

We understand the Major League Players Association's decision this year, but future plans should not waver. Your support is crucial in maintaining this tradition, which deeply benefits local businesses and community vibrancy. A negative or noncommittal vote risks undermining this established economic boost.

Thank you for your vote and the positive impact your support would ensure.

Sincerely,

Coach JJ
Hilton Head Aquatics
<https://www.teamunify.com/Home.jsp?team=scshha>
843-290-8393

Eres, Christian L

From: Mary Freibott <mfreibott1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:26 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Approve Stadium Bonds and Secure a St. Pete Legacy

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Hello Commissioner Eggers

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for approving the bonds required for the Tampa Bay Rays' stadium deal in St. Petersburg. This decision is not just about preserving a baseball team; it is about preserving a vital piece of our community's history and ensuring its economic and cultural prosperity for years to come.

As you know, baseball has been a cornerstone of our region with roots in St. Petersburg dating back to the early 1900s. Losing the ballpark during Hurricane Milton was a significant blow, but the proposed stadium deal offers a chance to rebuild, renew, and strengthen our connection to the sport. Moreover, it ensures that our hometown team, the Rays, can continue to play here in Pinellas County rather than relocating to another area.

The economic benefits of the stadium cannot be overstated. From job creation to increased tourism and local business support, the ripple effects will be felt across the community. The stadium will also provide a venue for events beyond baseball, serving as a hub for entertainment and civic engagement.

Approving the bonds is a crucial step in making this vision a reality. It demonstrates our commitment to St. Petersburg's growth and to preserving its identity as a vibrant and thriving city.

I urge you to approve the bonds and secure a bright future for the Rays and our community. Thank you for considering this critical investment in our region.

Thank you,

Mary Freibott-27 Year St. Petersburg Resident and Rays Fan

Eres, Christian L

From: Peter Gardner <pgardner02@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:07 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Re: The Rays!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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I apologize- my computer autocorrected your name to Evers just as it sent- my apologies. Rays up!

On Mon, Nov 18, 2024 at 10:03 Peter Gardner <pgardner02@gmail.com> wrote:

Peter Gardner

5716 TangerineAve S

Gulfport, FL 33707

Pgardner02@gmail.com

682-478-8292

11/18/2024

Dear Commissioner Evers,

I am writing to urge you and the Pinellas Commissioners to approve the construction of a new ballpark for the Tampa Bay Rays in St. Petersburg. As a resident of this vibrant community, I believe that this project represents a tremendous opportunity to revitalize our city, strengthen the local economy, and continue building on our rich sports culture.

The Rays have been an integral part of St. Petersburg's identity for over two decades, and the proposed new ballpark will ensure that we continue to enjoy Major League Baseball in our city for many years to come. A new stadium would

not only provide an improved experience for fans but would also help attract more visitors and tourists to our city, driving increased economic activity.

In addition to the economic impact, a new ballpark offers significant community benefits. It will create jobs during the construction phase and provide long-term employment opportunities in hospitality, retail, and event management. Furthermore, the presence of a state-of-the-art facility could inspire youth sports programs, provide more public spaces for events, and serve as a catalyst for additional urban development around the ballpark.

St. Petersburg has always been a city with forward-thinking leadership, and approving the new ballpark would be a bold step toward ensuring a prosperous future. I believe that the new stadium will be a cornerstone of our city's continued growth and will serve as a beacon of pride for both our residents and visitors.

I respectfully urge you and the other Pinellas Commissioners to approve this project, as it will benefit our community, economy, and quality of life for generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Gardner

Eres, Christian L

From: Peter Gardner <pgardner02@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: The Rays!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Peter Gardner

5716 TangerineAve S

Gulfport, FL 33707

[Pgardner02@gmail.com](mailto:pgardner02@gmail.com)

682-478-8292

11/18/2024

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I am writing to urge you and the Pinellas Commissioners to approve the construction of a new ballpark for the Tampa Bay Rays in St. Petersburg. As a resident of this vibrant community, I believe that this project represents a tremendous opportunity to revitalize our city, strengthen the local economy, and continue building on our rich sports culture.

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In addition to the economic impact, a new ballpark offers significant community benefits. It will create jobs during the construction phase and provide long-term employment opportunities in hospitality, retail, and event management. Furthermore, the presence of a state-of-the-art facility could inspire youth sports programs, provide more public spaces for events, and serve as a catalyst for additional urban development around the ballpark.

St. Petersburg has always been a city with forward-thinking leadership, and approving the new ballpark would be a bold step toward ensuring a prosperous future. I believe that the new stadium will be a cornerstone of our city's continued growth and will serve as a beacon of pride for both our residents and visitors.

I respectfully urge you and the other Pinellas Commissioners to approve this project, as it will benefit our community, economy, and quality of life for generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter Gardner

Eres, Christian L

From: jonathan johns <jonathanjohns@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:00 AM
Subject: Rays and community Vote should be Yes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Representatives,

Please vote yes to the funding for the Rays and the community. I understand the Rays can't play there this year the wants of the Major League Players Association or the Players Union. It would be so shortsighted to do this to the community. In 2023 I took in my parents from Sanibel. Why? Because where we live hurricanes hit. Holding up or a no vote hurts our community. Its time to put OUR community first and not petty acts. PLEASE VOTE TO REDEVELOP and KEEP the RAYS!!! Y

Thank you,
Jonathan Johns

Eres, Christian L

From: anne mcatee <annelmcatee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:53 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Baseball Vote -YES

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Vote yes to keep the rays here and the funding to do so!!!!

Eres, Christian L

From: Jacob Gullekson <j.gullekson@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:18 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Baseball

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Mr. Eggers,

Please bear with me through this email as I have never contacted an elected official before. However, with this vote coming up in the coming weeks involving the Rays new stadium bonds and the reality of how fragile the situation is, I felt it was necessary.

My name is Jacob Gullekson, a current Florida resident living for the moment in Spain. I was a Florida resident for the first time when the Rays threw their first pitch in 1998. I was only 5 years old at the time. I went to the second game they ever played at Tropicana Field and many before my dad received a new assignment at Offutt Airforce base in Omaha. Throughout my time in Omaha and later Italy, I remained a Rays fan and made sure to never miss a game whenever they were on.

In 2003, my dad received new orders, while we were in Italy, that we would be moving back to the Tampa Bay region, and I couldn't have been a happier boy at the time. From 2004 on, I went to at least 50 games a season and at least 30 once I moved away for college. The best birthday I ever had was when Evan Longoria hit 2 homeruns in their first ever playoff game in 2008. Even now, my dad has maintained my season ticket and goes to 40+ games a year. This past year, I went to 8 games for the time that I was home.

I have had some of the best memories of my life at Tropicana Field and have met almost all of those that I consider my best friends from going to Rays games. Almost all of those that will be my best men in my future wedding have all been friendships made through Rays baseball. I am even flying home this week to attend a funeral of one of those great friends I made at the Trop. It has also been the time I have best bonded with my father as well. I can't tell you how nice it is every time I come back home and get to sit back and catch a few games with him. It's just like being a kid again.

And if anyone knows about a team relocating, it's my father. He grew up a huge Milwaukee Braves fan just outside of Milwaukee and had to live through the team relocating to Atlanta. He still has trouble talking about how devastated he was when they decided to move. In fact, I have only been to Milwaukee once in my lifetime, because he still hasn't gotten over it over all this time, despite the fact that they were awarded the Brewers decades later.

In my life, I have lived through two baseball relocations, the Expos, and the Athletics. In both cases, there is a percentage of blame that could be put on the team itself as well as the council members in charge of the situations. I know that the Rays have blame in this issue too, and as a council member, it is your job to represent your city, but please remember that a professional team represents more than just a city, but a whole region. The Rays play a large part in the

professional sports market of all Central Florida, so when you make this decision in the coming weeks, please keep that in mind.

Please keep in mind as well that the level of play in the Florida State League has greatly diminished since Minor League Baseball realigned a few years back. Once all the minor league teams in Florida, short of Jacksonville and Pensacola became Low Single-A teams as opposed to what they previously were (High Single-A), the level and pace of play made it almost un-watchable to those that are even the best of baseball fans. Without the Rays, this is all we would have left other than the one month of Spring Training.

Once my future wife receives her US Passport and as a result becomes a Florida resident, I hope that we will have the Rays to enjoy for our lifetimes, our children's lifetimes, our grandchildren's lifetimes and so on. We plan on moving back to Central Florida sometime in the next few years and will have to make the decision between Orlando or the Tampa Bay region. Whether the Rays have a long-term future in the region will play a major part in that decision.

On one final note, I want to express how early in the process that Rays fandom really is. I am truly the first generation, at 31 years old, that has had the Rays around my whole life. I truly believe St. Petersburg can be a baseball town very similar to that of Seattle, Cleveland, or Kansas City. Those cities have multiple generations of fans now draw fans without many problems. Allowing the Rays to leave over a decision to play on the other side of the bay for one season will affect multiple generations of fandom that will never be able to be alleviated. I beg and pray that you don't make a shortsighted decision that could reap so many benefits for St. Petersburg and all Central Florida.

Kind Regards,
Jacob Gullekson



Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of djfastpitch13 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:18 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Tampa Bay Rays from David Arnet #30525678

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry	Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4 Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5
Your Name	David Arnet
Subject	Tampa Bay Rays
Message	<p>Good morning Gentlemen;</p> <p>First off thank you for allowing me the opportunity to communicate my thoughts on the Rays Gas Plant project that is currently under review. All though I do not live within the St Petersburg area, I consider myself a Rays fan that attends many games with family and friends throughout the season. I firmly believe that actions speak louder than words, by your actions delaying the bonds that are so vital to more than just the new stadium, you are both sending a message that you don't have the best interests for the citizens of St Pete. The Rays generate exponential tourism throughout the season for the entire area and your slow footing the passage is putting 1000's of jobs in jeopardy. The area around Tropicana Field has thousands of jobs from bars, restaurants etc that count on the Rays games to get them thru the entire year. You also have to understand that given the stadium situation after the hurricanes came through, they still need to play somewhere since the Tropicana field isn't safe to play in this year. I feel your allowing personal feelings blocking your judgement for the best outcome for the city. Please consider that your vote will drastically impact someone other than yourself.</p>
Your Street Address	4604 Copper Lane

City/Unincorporated County	Plant city
Zip Code	33566
Your Phone Number	863-207-4565
Your Email Address	djfastpitch13@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of phil.guercio at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:15 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Stadium Bond Vote from PHILIP A GUERCIO #30525659

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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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 PHILIP A GUERCIO

Subject Stadium Bond Vote

Message

Although I am a resident of Manatee County I am a frequent visitor to St Pete during the entire year. During the the baseball season I'd done out, spend at the game, and usually with 3 or 4 friends. A lot of tax dollars are collected from all the entertainment sources in your county. To back out of an agreement now will send a signal that all businesses are not welcome. Given the amount of public input and support from various a community groups passing the Bond issue will assure citizens and your local as I voters that their government body keeps its word.

Your Street Address 1209 24TH AVE W

City/Unincorporated County Palmetto

Zip Code 34221-3543

Your Phone Number 9417730421

Your Email Address phil.guercio@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: mark fergssportsbar.com <mark@fergssportsbar.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:12 AM
To: chris@schereforpinellas.com; vince@vincenowicki.com; Long, Janet C; Scott, Brian; Justice, Charlie; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene
Cc: msilverman@raysbaseball.com
Subject: Tampa Bay Rays Stadium Deal

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Good morning County Commissioners,

This is Mark Ferguson, owner of Ferg's sports Bar, and lifetime resident of Saint Petersburg. First off, I want to thank you all for what you do for the county. Secondly, I've been a Rays season ticket holder since day 1. The world has been turned upside down since these two hurricanes. We as a county and city need to come together to show support for one of our crown jewels that brings in millions of dollars in revenue for the whole county. The hurricane has put the project behind and caused a lot of financial difficulties for the rays and the city. We need to continue to get the stadium built with your vote tomorrow. Any delays in this vote may cause more hardship to the Rays situation going forward.

Thank you,
Ferg

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of rkswan123 at hotmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:03 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Agenda Item - new home of the Tampa Bay Rays Major League Baseball from Robert Swanson #30525602

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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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 Robert Swanson

Subject Agenda Item - new home of the Tampa Bay Rays Major League Baseball

Message Dear Pinellas Board of County Members,

I am writing to strongly urge your full support for the proposed bond to fund the new Rays stadium. This project is about much more than baseball—it is a vital investment in the economic health, cultural pride, and national reputation of our community.

The Tampa Bay Rays are more than just a sports team; they are a cornerstone of our region's identity and a powerful engine for economic growth. Losing the Rays would have far-reaching and devastating consequences, including:

1. ****Economic Impact:**** A Major League Baseball franchise generates substantial revenue for local businesses, creates jobs, and attracts tourism. Studies consistently demonstrate that cities with professional sports teams' experience increased economic activity—not only at stadium events but also in hospitality, retail, and other local industries. Losing the Rays would mean forfeiting these benefits and jeopardizing future

growth opportunities.

2. **Community Identity:** The Rays are deeply woven into the fabric of Tampa Bay. Their games unite fans from all walks of life, fostering a unique sense of pride and togetherness. The loss of this team would create an irreplaceable void in our cultural landscape.

3. **National Perception:** Failure to secure this deal risks damaging Tampa Bay's reputation as a region capable of supporting professional sports. Such a perception could deter future investment, tarnish our standing, and leave us labeled as a cautionary tale in the sports world.

Support for this initiative spans across the community. Residents, business leaders, and local organizations overwhelmingly recognize the importance of keeping the Rays in Tampa Bay and investing in a state-of-the-art facility. The proposed bond isn't merely a cost—it's a strategic investment in the future vitality of our region.

I urge you to think beyond the immediate expense and consider the lasting benefits of taking action now. By approving this bond, you will ensure Tampa Bay continues to thrive as a vibrant, competitive, and dynamic region—one that celebrates its sports teams and the economic and cultural value they bring.

Thank you for your attention and leadership on this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Robert Swanson
CWO4, USCG, Ret.
Pinellas County Resident & Tampa Bay Rays Season Ticket Member
2025795950

Your Street Address	106 Lindsay LN
City/Unincorporated County	Oldsmar
Zip Code	34677
Your Phone Number	2025795950
Your Email Address	rkswan123@hotmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Robert Swanson <rkswan123@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:00 AM
To: Scott, Brian; Justice, Charlie; Latvala, Christopher; Scherer, Chris; Eggers, Dave; Long, Janet C; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Nowicki, Vince
Subject: Agenda Item - new home of the Tampa Bay Rays Major League Baseball franchise

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Pinellas Board of County Members,

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The Tampa Bay Rays are more than just a sports team; they are a cornerstone of our region's identity and a powerful engine for economic growth. Losing the Rays would have far-reaching and devastating consequences, including:

- **Economic Impact:**** A Major League Baseball franchise generates substantial revenue for local businesses, creates jobs, and attracts tourism. Studies consistently demonstrate that cities with professional sports teams' experience increased economic activity—not only at stadium events but also in hospitality, retail, and other local industries. Losing the Rays would mean forfeiting these benefits and jeopardizing future growth opportunities.
- **Community Identity:**** The Rays are deeply woven into the fabric of Tampa Bay. Their games unite fans from all walks of life, fostering a unique sense of pride and togetherness. The loss of this team would create an irreplaceable void in our cultural landscape.
- **National Perception:**** Failure to secure this deal risks damaging Tampa Bay's reputation as a region capable of supporting professional sports. Such a perception could deter future investment, tarnish our standing, and leave us labeled as a cautionary tale in the sports world.

Support for this initiative spans across the community. Residents, business leaders, and local organizations overwhelmingly recognize the importance of keeping the Rays in Tampa Bay and investing in a state-of-the-art facility. The proposed bond isn't merely a cost—it's a strategic investment in the future vitality of our region.

I urge you to think beyond the immediate expense and consider the lasting benefits of taking action now. By approving this bond, you will ensure Tampa Bay continues to thrive as a vibrant, competitive, and dynamic region—one that celebrates its sports teams and the economic and cultural value they bring.

Thank you for your attention and leadership on this critical matter.

Sincerely,
Robert Swanson
CWO4, USCG, Ret.
Pinellas County Resident & **Tampa Bay Rays Season Ticket Member**
2025795950

Eres, Christian L

From: Latta, Kenneth C. <Kenneth.Latta@orlandohealth.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 8:51 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Stadium bonds

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Hi, my name is Kenneth Latta. I Live in Seminole and I'm writing about the Rays stadium bonds. Please vote yes on the stadium bonds like the commission agreed to in July.

I've been a Rays fan for over 10 years and recently started taking my daughter. It's something we do together, and I really don't want to lose that. I'm just one person but I have many friends that live outside of Pinellas that come to games and spend money. Before games we always go to Ferg's and each one of us will spend on average 20 to 30 dollars minimum. On weekend games we go downtown and hang out also. That's just me and my little group, there are many, many others that come from outside of Pinellas and do the same. If this deal falls through the Rays will leave and Pinellas specifically St Pete will never see MLB again. Even if MLB decided to expand and come back to this area in 15 or 20 years they surley would'nt come back to Pinellas they would go to Tampa. This our last chance to keep the Rays please vote yes thank you.

Kenneth Latta, A.S, CNMT, (NMTCB) RT CT (AART) Nuclear Medicine Technology

Orlando Health Bayfront Hospital
701 6th street south | St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Tel: (727) 893-6140 | Fax: (727) 893-6763 |
[website](#) | [facebook](#)

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Eres, Christian L

From: Keara McGraw <kmcgraw@innovationscapitalgroup.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 8:45 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Cc: Irv Cohen
Subject: Tropicana Field Development on behalf of Irv Cohen

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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(This letter is being sent on behalf of Irv Cohen, cc'd on this email)

Good morning, Commissioner Eggers,

I write to you today as a resident who values progress, collaboration, and the long-term vision for our city and county. Reflecting on recent discussions surrounding the Tropicana Field development and the Rays' stadium proposal, I believe we find ourselves in this moment of uncertainty partly due to the lingering effects of what I'll call "hurricane brain."

The aftermath of multiple storms has left many of us in a state of exhaustion, struggling to return to normalcy. It's been a challenge for many of us to make sound decisions amid the constant fight-or-flight responses of recent weeks. Unfortunately, the decision to pause the October vote on critical start-up commitments seems to have been influenced by this collective haze, despite the clear and significant approval by the County Commission in July.

The earlier 5-2 vote in favor of the Rays and Hines project ignited enthusiasm among community stakeholders. Our Chamber and Economic Development Council began forging partnerships to create jobs—hundreds of them. For countless Pinellas County residents and small businesses, this project offered a transformative opportunity. Building the stadium would not just create infrastructure; it would build lives, careers, and legacies.

However, businesses thrive on certainty. The pause in October has now left the Rays and other stakeholders cautiously optimistic yet hesitant. Without the County's renewed commitment, confidence in the project's future has been shaken. As we work to heal from the storms, I urge you, as an elected official representing our city and all involved parties, to recognize the economic opportunity and community investment this project represents. The bed tax provides a robust reserve intended for initiatives like this one. It is a tool to propel economic growth through tourism and development—not to fund roads, housing, or emergency assistance. By leveraging these funds for the stadium project, the return on investment will extend into general revenue, benefiting our community for generations to come.

Additionally, the Rays organization has shown its steadfast commitment to our region, supporting employees, fans, and the greater Tampa Bay community. While we understand the temporary relocation of games, it underscores the need for a permanent home that reflects the vitality and ambition of the great City of St. Petersburg.

The costs of delay are clear. With each passing month, construction expenses rise, and opportunities are lost. But more than financial costs, delays erode trust and momentum in a project that has the potential to define a new chapter for our city.

I respectfully ask that the County, City, and Rays move forward with the agreements already in place. Together, we can overcome the fog of recent hardships and focus on the bright, thriving future that this project promises for all of us. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to making Pinellas County a world-class community.

Regards,

Irv Cohen

Eres, Christian L

From: michael bacigalupo <mrmikebaci@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 6:21 AM
Subject: Rays Funding
Attachments: 1520107950366.jpeg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hello and hope the day finds you well.

Please, please, please approve funding for the Rays new stadium.

This ballpark area will be a part of the Community in the Community. The location near Central & Downtown are fantastic for pedestrian, bike, & golf cart access.

If you build It - They will come.

Your neighbor-
mikeb
thanks

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of skinley at tampabay.rr.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 6:17 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Our Beloved Rays from Scarlett Kinley #30525077

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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- 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 Scarlett Kinley

Subject Our Beloved Rays

Message Good morning Commissioners,

Surely this is a stressful time for those of you that truly love and support our community. The many Rays fans that have been reaching out to you are very aware that our community has been devastated by the recent hurricanes. PLEASE DON'T ADD INSULT TO INJURY BY JEOPARDIZING THE FUTURE OF THE RAYS.

The Tampa Bay Rays fan base extends much farther than local and statewide residents. Families travel to the area and support the local economy in numbers that are far more than the average citizen understands. Our senior citizens have come to love our Rays and have something to look forward to on most nights, even if they can't travel to the ballpark. Our St. Petersburg downtown is thriving and primed for a state-of-the-art ballpark. Personally, we have created a "Rays Family" that is an important part of our social circle and there so many more that share those connections. This is what makes a community.

Rays ownership must be feeling that all of their work and planning will be in vane and we couldn't blame them if they decide to move elsewhere. Uphill battles can only be fought for so long. We all would have preferred a Pinellas County Temporary home for next few years, but if we don't have the required facility standards required by MLB, we're fortunate to have a temporary location in Tampa which could help grow our fan base.

I implore each of you to follow through with the funding and support of our community, its citizens and fans. It is an honor to be given the privilege of an MLB team, please do not take that privilege for granted. It is a loss that will affect generations and nothing good will come from it.

Respectfully,

Scarlett Kinley
St. Petersburg resident and Rays fan since 1998

Your Street Address	935 23rd Avenue North
City/Unincorporated County	St. Petersburg
Zip Code	33704
Your Phone Number	7273655211
Your Email Address	skinley@tampabay.rr.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: frankie diehl <frankiediehl2@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:08 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Stadium deal

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Commissioner Eggers,

I am writing to urge your full support for the proposed bond to fund the new Rays stadium. This project is not just about baseball; it is about the economic vitality, cultural pride, and national reputation of our community.

The Tampa Bay Rays are more than a sports team—they are a cornerstone of our region's identity and an engine for economic growth. The loss of the Rays would have devastating consequences:

1 Economic Impact: A Major League Baseball franchise drives significant revenue for local businesses, creates jobs, and attracts tourism. Studies consistently show that cities with professional sports teams enjoy increased economic activity, both directly at stadium events and indirectly through hospitality, retail, and other local services. Losing the Rays would mean forfeiting these benefits and jeopardizing future growth opportunities.

2 Community Identity: The Rays are woven into the fabric of Tampa Bay. Their games bring together fans of all backgrounds, fostering a sense of community pride. Losing this team would leave a void in our cultural landscape that no other entity can fill.

3 National Perception: If we fail to secure this deal, Tampa Bay risks being viewed as a region unable—or unwilling—to support professional sports. This perception could deter future investment, harm our reputation, and position us as a cautionary tale in the sports world.

The support for this deal across the community is overwhelming. Residents, business leaders, and local organizations recognize the importance of keeping the Rays in Tampa Bay and investing in a facility that reflects our commitment to excellence. The proposed bond is not just an expenditure; it is a down payment on our community's future success.

I implore you to think beyond the immediate cost and consider the long-term consequences of inaction. Let us ensure that Tampa Bay remains a vibrant, thriving region that celebrates its sports teams and the economic and cultural benefits they bring.

Sincerely, Frankie Diehl

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of robert at bizgrowthmasters.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:29 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Bonds for development of gas plant district from Robert Johnson # 30526532

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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- 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 Robert Johnson

Subject Bonds for development of gas plant district

Message

As a 8 year resident of Pinellas County, I urge you to support the previous agreement for development of the gas plant district and vote yes to issue the bonds needed to provide the funding for this very important project.

Please follow through on the commission's previous commitments and vote to issue the bonds needed to fund the project, so it can move forward.

Robert Johnson

Your Street Address 12246 Julia st

City/Unincorporated County Unincorporated county

Zip Code 33772

Your Phone Number 4083934010

Your Email Address robert@bizgrowthmasters.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Brittany Ranew <brittany@brittanyranew.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:47 AM
To: Latvala, Christopher; Scherer, Chris; Scott, Brian; Nowicki, Vince; Eggers, Dave; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@schererforpinellas.com; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Say YES to the Rays and our Future!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear County Commissioners,

I recently saw a letter released by Chris Steinocher with the St Pete Chamber urging us to voice our concerns ahead of the county vote to keep the stadium deal moving forward. I am emailing you all today to do just that. As a Rays season member since 2019, my husband and I have fallen in love with the Rays since we moved here in 2015. It's our weekly pastime together during baseball season. There are countless stories just like ours of people who love our Rays! We live 10 minutes from the stadium and enjoy going to games last minute and planned out. I cannot tell you how thrilled we were to see the stadium deal come together earlier this year to keep the Rays in St Pete! As a local business owner, realtor, author and podcaster, I am highly invested in our community. I see the Trop site redevelopment with the Rays as an anchor to be an integral part of the future of our community and the entire Tampa Bay region. The benefits of this site plan are both measurable and immeasurable for the long term growth of our city. The Rays have long been an amazing community partner, often doing things in the shadows to support those in need. It is apparent that not continuing forward with the already agreed upon deal would cause a ripple effect of negative consequences in our community for years to come.

I realize that we have dealt with unprecedented things following two hurricanes, but I urge you all to keep the future in view instead of making a short-term decision - or in letting pride get in the way with the Rays having to make the only decision they possibly could to keep the team here next season in the temporary home of Steinbrenner field. It's clear that this field was the only viable choice and they have no intentions of disrupting the deal with the city of St Pete and Pinellas County for the future stadium based on this temporary solution.

I urge you to keep the Rays at the table and vote yes this week. This plan has been long overdue for our community and you will disappoint countless people by not acting in good faith and continuing forward. Please keep our future shining bright and vote YES on the Rays and the Historic Gas Plant District!

A Letter from Chris: Rallying for our
Future
stpete.com



Respectfully,

Brittany Ranew

Author of New Adult Fantasy Series: Riley Jordan & The Fire Prophecies

727.258.1064

TheFireProphecies.com

Listen to my Podcast: [Be Your Own Hero](#) - [Join me on Patreon!](#)

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Eres, Christian L

From: Christie Bruner <cbruner@stpete.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:56 AM
Subject: St. Pete Chamber: Letter of Support - Rays Stadium
Attachments: Rays Stadium - BOCC - 11.18.pdf

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Good morning,

Please see the attached letter of support indicating the Chamber's request for the BOCC to vote yes on the Rays stadium bonds. Thank you in advance and please reach out to me with any questions.

-Christie Bruner



stpete.com



Christie Bruner

Vice President of Advocacy
St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce
Innovation. Excellence. Inclusivity. Accountability. Integrity.
The Chamber Building
100 Second Avenue North, Suite 150
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
C: 727.637.7913

Eres, Christian L

From: Kari Riddick <kaririddick@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:59 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays

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Hi!

I'm writing to ask you to please please please vote yes on the Rays stadium. I have 3 young boys who love baseball and we love our city. We go to Rays games all the time and support them and they have given back to our local community. I'm praying we will have many more years to take our family Rays games and even one day my grandchildren. It is an honor to have a MLB team in our city and I'm hoping you vote YES!

Thank you!
Kari Riddick
Sent from my iPhone

Eres, Christian L

From: scurrslp@aol.com
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:11 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium

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Mr. Eggers

Please vote **YES** to approve the Tampa Bay Rays Stadium bond.

I have been attending games since they first arrived in 1998.

I fear they will leave our county if they don't stay in St. Petersburg. I, for one, will only travel to Tampa for games while the current stadium is being repaired. If they moved there permanently, I would not follow them as a season ticket member.

Please vote to approve the bond.

Respectfully,
Deborah Scurr
An Unincorporated Pinellas County Resident

Eres, Christian L

From: Sam Rainer <samrainer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:13 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Keep the Rays in St. Pete & Pinellas County! VOTE YES!

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Commissioner Eggers -

I go to 30+ games a year and often bring my family. Please vote "yes" on the bonds and keep the Rays in St. Pete and Pinellas County. The Rays are the reason we are often in downtown St. Pete. Without them, we would hardly go.

You have the opportunity to build a generational tie to the community. My kids LOVE the Rays and taking these trips downtown.

With a new ballpark as an anchor in the redevelopment, St. Pete and Pinellas County will become one of the premier destination places in the nation. Without the ballpark and the Rays, it won't happen.

VOTE YES and KEEP THE RAYS IN ST. PETE and PINELLAS COUNTY!

Sam

--

Sam Rainer

[Blog](#) || [Twitter](#) || [Facebook](#)

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of auntiejo at prodigy.net
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:15 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: TAMPA BAY RAYS from JoAnne Pihlkar #30527042

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- 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 JoAnne Pihlkar

Subject TAMPA BAY RAYS

Message

Please keep the Rays in Tampa Bay. A no vote will surely send them to another city and state. To see Chris Latvala holding a sign with the Rays logo on it, only to turn his back on them just reeks of impropriety, while receiving money from the Phillies. The Rays have a huge economic impact in this area. If you vote no, you will be putting hundreds of Rays/Trop employees out of a job, as well as having a negative economic on the businesses in the area who will not reap the benefit of having all that tourist influx into their businesses. I hope you can sleep at night knowing you did that. SHAME ON ANYONE THAT VOTES NO!

Your Street Address 6485 Cape Sable Way NE

City/Unincorporated County St Petersburg

Zip Code 33702

Your Email Address auntiejo@prodigy.net

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Eres, Christian L

From: Mark Vetter <mavetter2003@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:21 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Cc: Mark Vetter
Subject: New Rays Baseball Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Dave Eggers,

As a Rays fan and a resident of Pinellas County, I'm asking you to vote in favor of the \$312 million pledge to help build the new stadium.

I am a Rays fan and supporter. It would be a terrible loss if the Rays would move anywhere else including Hillsborough County/Tampa.

Thank you sincerely for your consideration.

Mark Vetter
Pinellas Park

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Eres, Christian L

From: Carson Hardy <carson.m.hardy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:24 PM
To: Scherer, Chris
Subject: County Funding of the Trop Redevelopment Site

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Commissioner,

The recent news of the delayed vote(s) on releasing the funds for the new stadium area has been very disheartening. As a lifetime Tampa Bay region resident, the Commission wavering on its commitment to the region, the team and its many, many fans is very upsetting. The team is a staple of what makes the county what it is today. Without a professional sports team it loses one of the few things that sets it apart from the dozens of great beach-y tourist destinations in Florida.

My father and I have literally been Rays fans since Day 1. Since I went to college at USF, he and I have been meeting at Tropicana Field (he from Bradenton, myself from Tampa) as the perfect middle ground to enjoy something he and I both share a major love for - the Tampa Bay Rays. Losing the Rays would be a major blow to both of us, and the closeness of our relationship. Please don't allow for this deal to die after the painstaking work you've done to secure the future of the team here.

My in-laws live a 10 minute walk to the stadium. They are transplants from St. Louis, but have adopted the Rays as their AL team. They don't want to lose one of the biggest draws that led them to move to DTSP.

My daughter, only 2, has already been to 5+ Rays games with me. Raising her as a Rays fan has been one of the things I've been most excited for as a parent. There's nothing like going to the ballpark as a kid and experiencing something so big, so amazing. I know because that kid was me, at the Trop. Don't be a part of taking that away from the thousands of Tampa Bay's kids who would miss out on this lifetime experience.

Please don't be so short-sighted as to lose one of the greatest things about the region: professional baseball in an urban setting, in what will be a world class ballpark village setting.

Respectfully yours,

Carson Hardy

--

Carson Hardy
+1 941-504-4701

Eres, Christian L

From: Will Anderson <anderson.william.e@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:45 PM
To: Peters, Kathleen; Scott, Brian; Latvala, Christopher; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Eggers, Dave; Nowicki, Vince; Scherer, Chris
Subject: Keep the Rays in Pinellas County!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to you today to urge you to vote for keeping the Rays in Pinellas County long term. This is what the citizens want. Generations of baseball and sports fans are directly affected by this decision. Keep the Rays here!!

Thank you,

William Anderson
Resident

Eres, Christian L

From: todd1a14@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:46 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Save the rays

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Save the Rays don't let them move !

Todd

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of anderson.william.e at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:47 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays Stadium from William Anderson #30527303

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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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
- County Administrator

Your Name William Anderson

Subject Rays Stadium

Message Keep the Rays in Pinellas County. Vote yes for the future of baseball in the region!

Your Street Address 1954 67th Ave South

City/Unincorporated County St Pete

Zip Code 33712

Your Email Address anderson.william.e@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Nathan Stout <nstout22@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 12:48 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Stadium Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Hi Mr. Eggers,

I am writing to express concern over the potential "No" vote for the funding of the Rays stadium. While I understand all of your concerns for a better deal and potential neglect for other county matters, I humbly ask you to reconsider so we can keep an anchor of our community in Pinellas County.

I am a board member of Countryside Little League and first-hand witness to the impact the Rays make in our communities. In fact, the entire west coast of Florida Youth baseball is financially supported by the Rays through monetary donations, uniform donations, players volunteering, free tickets to games and more.

Over the last 2 years my next-door neighbor's son successfully battled Leukemia. One organization was there to support his journey from diagnosis to successfully ringing the bell to signal he was cancer free - The Tampa Bay Rays. Upon diagnosis he was able to throw the 1st pitch out at a Major League game and invited to multiple games after in suites to take his mind off of a life-threatening illness. At the end of his cancer journey, he was made honorary bat boy and celebrated pregame in an exclusive meet and greet with the Rays coaches and players.

As a member of this community, I've personally benefited from the Rays as a father taking enjoyment of my kids getting to witness the magic of comeback wins. I've benefited as a Little League coach taking my entire league to multiple games. I've benefited as a local entrepreneur taking prospects and clients to ball games and getting an opportunity to win their business.

I do understand the Rays playing a season in Hillsborough seems disrespectful, given the financial support committed to in July, however that decision is not on the Rays alone when you factor in the MLB Commissioner, MLB players union, and the financial devastation of missing out on multiple weekend games with 20,000+ in attendance.

I think we have to remember the majority of Pinellas wants the team to stay in St Pete long term. We are also excited about the investment into the community, where the new stadium is only about 1/5th of the total project investment. The additional development of about \$5.5B is dependent upon the new stadium being the anchor. In 10-12 years, a current vacant non-revenue producing portion of Pinellas County will have property tax values north of \$10B to generate tax revenue. An investment of \$315M by the county, financed over 30 years at about \$15-18M annually to bring in \$7.2B into Pinellas County is a deal we need to make.

I voted Yes for you when you decided to run for office because I believed you would help grow Pinellas county. I believed you would help grow jobs, support our youth, and see the bigger picture for Pinellas. I believed that you'd also understand that only 26 cities in America get to claim an MLB franchise and at any time another

city can take what should belong to Pinellas residents (many cities are ready to sign a deal). The longer we delay, the more expensive it gets ([could've had a new stadium for \\$450M in 2008](#)) and the higher the chance we lose the franchise altogether.

Please don't crash the hope of the majority of Pinellas County residents. After all, keeping the Rays in St Pete provides a light for many residents - a father looking to bond with his family & community, a young entrepreneur trying to build his business and win clients, or even a young child diagnosed with cancer, looking for an escape while he or she battles for their life.

Sincerely,

Nathan Stout
Clearwater Resident
(813)326-6138

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of hoods.surf-0y at icloud.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:15 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays Stadium Funding from Jeremy Vold #30527533

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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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 Jeremy Vold

Subject Rays Stadium Funding

Message Commissioners,

I am a Minnesotan who is fortunate to be able to visit Pinellas County with my wife and kids nearly once per year, some years more than once, as my wife's parents own a unit in Redington Beach. Redington Beach is my family's home away from home. We've been heartbroken by the devastation caused by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, but we are thankful that their building was minimally damaged compared to other properties. The condition of the amenities at their building and of the beaches will not dissuade us from coming again in 2025. We know that with time and effort, both the building and the beaches will return to their previous beauty and splendor.

When we come, we always take in a Rays game at Tropicana Field if their home schedule and our itinerary accommodate. When I'm trapped in Minnesota, I follow the Rays very closely on MLB.TV. I like to fancy myself as the biggest Rays fan in Minnesota.

I was very pleased when the latest stadium effort cleared each hurdle. I was shocked and dismayed to see Tropicana Field's roof get shredded during Hurricane Milton. I know there is frustration about the Rays playing in Tampa in 2025. It will certainly be a

longer drive for us for the beach if we are able to take in a game in 2025, but the important thing is that they will be in the region where they belong.

Now I am growing increasingly concerned about the reports of funding delays potentially killing the new stadium and Gas Plant District redevelopment, which brings me to the point of my message. I firmly believe that this is the best effort yet to keep the Rays in St. Petersburg where they belong, and it is probably the last chance to do so. Because of this, I strongly urge the Commission to not delay funding for the stadium.

The beaches will still be beautiful and popular, and can be restored over time, whether naturally or through human means. The clock on the Rays time in Tampa probably can't be reset after this. The Pinellas beaches will always be the best, but there's time to restore them. The Rays' time is now. Please, Commissioners, save the Tampa Bay Rays once and for all!

Thank you for your time and consideration, and Rays Up!

Hopefully, and enthusiastically,

Jeremy Vold
Rochester, MN

Your Street Address	5337 Duvall St NW
City/Unincorporated County	Rochester
Zip Code	55901
Your Email Address	hoods.surf-0y@icloud.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of jking005 at tampabay.rr.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:17 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays stadium from Carol king #30527545

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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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 Carol king

Subject Rays stadium

Message Am writing about vote for funding/ bond of MLB Tampa Bay Rays stadium which is tomorrow. It would be a great disservice to our great City of St Petersburg to lose baseball. All the jobs, economic growth, tourism plus what it does for the community to lose this privilege for now and generations to come as a robust attraction. I hate to see it turn into a political /personal issue which seems to be happening. Please don't hurt this city as it was always baseball rich even as a child with spring training. If you don't grant this tomorrow the Rays will be free to leave the state and that would be a sad and true disgrace to lose what other cities would love to take from us. Please do the right thing. Thank you for serving our City

Your Street Address 4800 15 av nav n

City/Unincorporated County St Petersburg

Zip Code 33713

Your Email Address

jking005@tampabay.rr.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Jonah Babnick <jonah.babnick@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:24 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dave,

I have been a resident of Pinellas County for over 10 years now. My wife is born and raised here, and we have chosen to raise our children here as well.

We want to continue to attend Rays games as a family. This team means so much to the community and local businesses.

We want to Rays to stay here in Pinellas. Please vote to make this happen.

Regards,
Jonah Babnick

Eres, Christian L

From: John Vericker <jmv1974@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:35 PM
To: Long, Janet C; Scott, Brian; Justice, Charlie; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Scherer, Chris; Nowicki, Vince
Subject: Pinellas County Rays Meeting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Commissioners:

The Rays are not alone in dealing with hurricane repairs. Many other Pinellas residents have had to temporarily relocate to Pasco and Hillsborough while their homes are being repaired. I had assumed the Pinellas County leaders would have been thankful that Steinbrenner Field was MLB ready for the Rays while they fix Tropicana Field.

Disney was too far away for everyone.

On Tuesday, the Pinellas County Commission should approve the bonds and publicly thank the Yankees for having a place close by until the Rays can play in St. Petersburg again.

John Vericker
jmv1974@hotmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: ISNM/ 27ir <jsook@knology.net>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:37 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Gas Plant District Development

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Mr. I am writing this email in regard to the upcoming vote set to take place on Tuesday for the stadium bonds as a part of the gas plant district. Please consider voting yes to move forward with approving the bonds. I understand that the rays will not be playing in Pinellas County next year. While I too wish they were playing in Clearwater instead of at Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, that agreement was made primarily in regard to logistics involving an agreement between the MLB players union and the MLB. As a result of two major hurricanes that affected are area the Rays had no choice but to find another location in which to play games. It is important that the bonds be approved at the meeting on Tuesday. If the bonds are not approved and the deal is rejected, we likely risk losing the Tampa Bay Rays and Major League Baseball in our community forever. The Rays have been an integral part of our community not just in terms of baseball but also involved in helping bring in business and redevelopment to our area. This is a big part of the gas plant district redevelopment. I hope you take into consideration the important ramifications of this decision and of those who stand who stand to benefit from giving approval to the bonds.

Sincerely, Joseph Sook

Eres, Christian L

From: bsce96@live.com
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:03 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Let's seal the deal and keep the Rays in the Bay Area!!!!
Sent from my iPhone

Eres, Christian L

From: alexr@zoominternet.net
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:08 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Hello Dave,

My name is Alex Reba and I am a constituent of yours in Pinellas County. I have been closely following the ongoing conversation regarding the Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment. As someone who lives across the street from Tropicana Field, is employed in a part-time capacity by the Rays, and also has a full-time job within Pinellas County, I am heavily invested in the outcome of this vote and would have been disappointed in myself if I didn't at least try to show support for the approval of the bonds to fund the project.

When I was looking to start my career out of my undergraduate program at Penn State, I found a job at Raymond James Financial. In October of 2021, I made the trip down to the area and was left with a choice of living in either Hillsborough or Pinellas County. While limiting my commute time and finding a reasonable rent payment were among important considerations, the major selling point for me was the ability to live in a walkable community with a major league baseball stadium at the heart of it. I took up residence on Central Avenue, right across from the stadium and have been there ever since.

While I attended as many games as I could as a fan, I had also hoped to obtain the opportunity to land a job with the team, even if it was in a limited capacity. Before the 2023 season, I was given that opportunity to join the Rays organization in a part-time position as a member of the Baseball Operations group. I have loved every minute of living in St. Pete and in large part, this has been due to my proximity to the Rays. In addition to having a job which I truly love with the team, I have also created lasting relationships with colleagues and other Rays fans. I even met my now girlfriend of almost three years and together we have had many shared experiences that revolve around our love for the Rays.

I just wanted to say that I understand you have a tough decision to make in regard to the allocation of public funds. Our community is going through an extremely difficult time on the heels of not one but two hurricanes which has left devastating destruction across the region. I am sure there are many things I do not understand when it comes to the state of the community's finances and plans for the future.

But what I do feel strongly about is that the community would not be the same community without the Tampa Bay Rays. Not only are they a source of employment to me and thousands of others, but that sports can play a critical role in the lives of all of their fans. I think back to 2020, when all of us were placed into quarantines, left feeling isolated and alone. But during that summer, the Rays provided us a temporary escape, going on an improbable run to the World Series and uniting their fans in a way that didn't feel possible in such uncertain times.

I believe that the allocation of collected tourist tax revenue from the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

will play a vital role in securing the future of an important redevelopment plan for our community. A new stadium will provide the area with a place for sporting events, concerts, community events, and countless other revenue generating opportunities which will make this a worthwhile investment. Additionally, not only will we keep the current existing jobs in our region that rely on the Tampa Bay Rays and events which take place at Tropicana Field, we will continue to see more and more come to the area, which will be beneficial to everyone involved.

While I am disappointed that the Tampa Bay Rays will not play in Pinellas County in 2025, I truly hope they will have your support in keeping them here in the place they belong for decades to come.

Regards,
Alex Reba

Eres, Christian L

From: Frank Malczyk <frank.malczyk@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:27 PM
To: Latvala, Christopher; Scherer, Chris; Scott, Brian; Nowicki, Vince; Eggers, Dave; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@schererforpinellas.com; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Be practical please

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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You were all elected into your respective positions. Last July after careful review and consideration, your group voted 5 in favor, 2 opposed, to proceed forward with funding for the new stadium.

Respect the process and stand for what this vote stood for.

Put emotions and pettiness aside and move forward funding the bonds for this dynamic economic generator for our county and neighboring constituents and all visitors.

Thank you and Regards,
Frank and Claire Malczyk
545 15th Ave NE
St Petersburg FL 33704
727-642-0922

Eres, Christian L

From: Kim Guzell <cguzell@tampabay.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:37 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Tampa Bay Rays Stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Hello -

I am a long-time resident of Pinellas County and have supported our beloved Tampa Bay Rays, as well as all of our Bay area sports teams, since each was started. I travel to Tampa to support the Bucs, Lightning, and even USF Bulls, and to St. Petersburg (and Port Charlotte in the spring) to support the Rays. I find it distressing to think that our commissioners are even considering not supporting the Rays stadium bond. The impact of losing the Rays will last for many years. All of our major sports teams bring revenue not only from your citizens, but from those who travel to spend time in our beautiful area as a fan of the visiting opponent.

We - the entire Tampa Bay area worked hard to bring an MLB team here, and to lose them because of a personal political ploy is unacceptable. I urge you to support the funding, and support the community who voted for you. We are your citizens, and we are the fans. Losing our MLB team will affect generations to come.

Respectfully,

Cheryl K Guzell
55-year resident of Pinellas County

Eres, Christian L

From: Keith Beattie <keith.beattie4@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:57 PM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group
Subject: Rays bond issue

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Sent from my iPhone

I encourage the board to Vote Yes on the Rays stadium. Playing in Tampa next year is the best option since the Yankees stadium has the most capacity and has gone through a major upgrade. The time frame is too short pitchers and catchers report in 3 months. It will give time to move back to Pinellas County the next season.

Thank you,

Keith Beattie
8369 17th St N
St Petersburg 33702
727-348-1485

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 3:47 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Live Form

Topic	Rays Stadium Bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Michael Pozzi
Address	1863 76th Ave N Saint Petersburg, FL 33702
Phone	+17276441786
Email	Lightning2flames1@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 3:52 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Live Form

Topic Tampa Bay Rays Funding
BCC Agenda Date 11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue Support
Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name Pamela Barrett
Address 4815 Walton Avenue
Titusville, FL 32780
Phone +13214809665
Email bratbarrett1@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 4:06 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Live Form

Topic vote for bond issue
BCC Agenda Date 11-18-2024
Your Stand on the Issue Support
Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name
Address
Phone
Email