

RESOLUTION NO. 17- 92

A RESOLUTION OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, PURSUANT TO CH. 125, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX DOLLARS FUNDING TO THE CITY OF DUNEDIN FOR ITS SPRING TRAINING FACILITY CAPITAL PROJECT SUBJECT TO A FINAL FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH AGREED UPON TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

WHEREAS, § 125.0104(5) Florida Statutes, allows the use of tourist development tax dollars for sports stadiums, including retained spring training facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dunedin (the “**City**”) currently owns such spring training facilities, including but not limited to a stadium (located on one site), and training and practice fields, batting cages and pitching mounds, offices, locker rooms, training rooms, and classroom (located on another site) (the “**Dunedin Spring Training Facilities**”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a license agreement between the City and Rogers Blue Jays Baseball Partnership (also known as the Toronto Blue Jays Baseball Club) (the “**Club**”), the Dunedin Spring Training Facilities currently serve as the spring training home of the *Toronto Blue Jays* (as they have continuously since 1977); and

WHEREAS, the City is now seeking to renovate, remodel, and/or construct improvements to the Dunedin Spring Training Facilities (the “**Capital Project**”); and

WHEREAS, the City has applied for such Tourist Development funding for the Capital Project through the County’s Capital Project Funding program; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing and discussing the City’s Capital Funding application and finding that funding the Capital Project as described herein is both statutorily allowable and helps promote Pinellas County tourism, the Tourist Development Council on April 19, 2017 recommended the Board of County Commissioners (“**BCC**”) consider funding the Capital Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners on April 25, 2017 unanimously voted to support the approval of the Capital Project in an amount up to Forty Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$46,500,000.00), subject to negotiating a final funding agreement with agreed upon terms and conditions; and

WHEREAS, at a September 19, 2017 workshop, the Board of County Commissioners received a detailed update regarding the Capital Project and the progress of negotiations on the terms and conditions of a conceptual funding agreement for the Capital Project; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2017 the City approved and executed a new license agreement with the Club to maintain its spring training home at the Dunedin Spring Training Facilities for an additional term of twenty-five (25) years following the renovation, remodeling, and/or re-construction of improvements to the Dunedin Spring Training Facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS in a meeting duly-assembled on this 12th day of December 2017, adopted the following:

1. Subject to finalizing the funding agreement for the Capital Project with agreed upon terms and conditions and having such funding agreement approved by the BCC, the County shall provide the City tourist development tax dollar funding for the Dunedin Spring Training Facilities in an amount not to exceed Forty-One Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$41,700,000.00).

2. The County's anticipated funding contribution amount herein is based on an anticipated cost for the Capital Project of Eighty-One Million Forty Four Thousand dollars (\$81,044,000.00) and, if the actual cost for the Capital Project is less than the amount of Eighty-One Million Forty Four Thousand dollars (\$81,044,000.00) then the County may reduce the

amount of its funding contribution.

3. This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Commissioner Eggers offered the foregoing resolution and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner Welch and upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: Long, Welch, Eggers, Gerard, Morroni, and Seel.

Nays: None.

Absent and not voting: Justice.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: Michael A. Zas
Office of the County Attorney