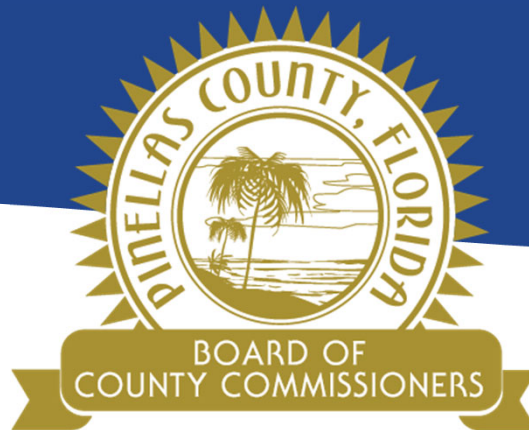


FY26 Budget Development

Budget Workshop II

August 28, 2025



Today's Discussion Topics



- **Surface Water Assessment Rate**
- **Seminole Fire Rescue District**
- **Changes to the Proposed Budget and Property Tax Rates**

Surface Water Assessment Rate

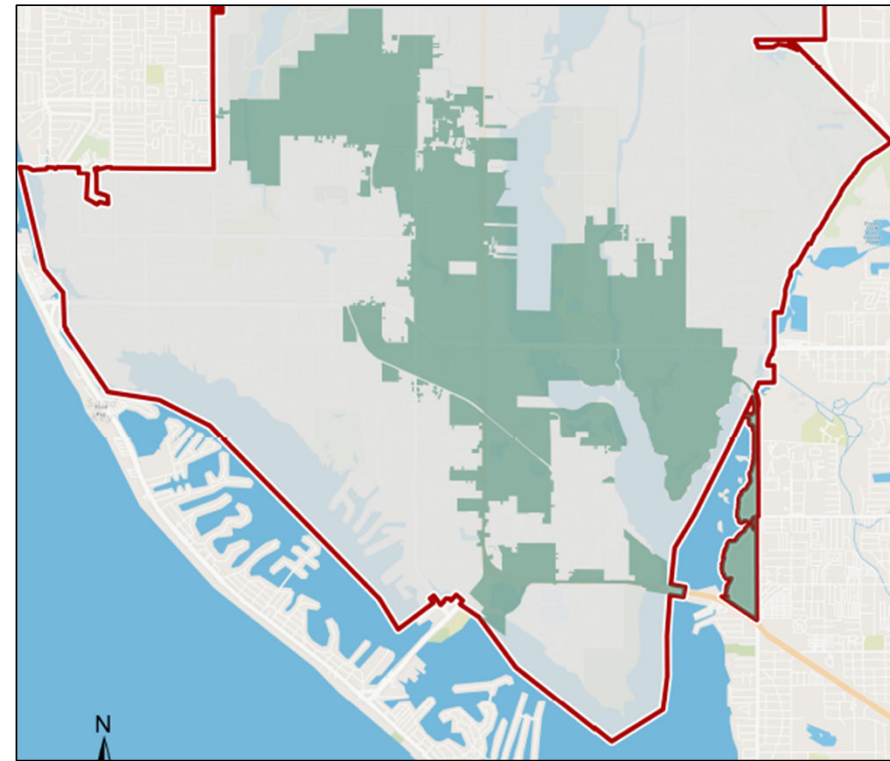


- In April 2025, the Board received a Surface Water Fund update and achieved consensus around a 5% increase (from \$124.91 to \$131.16 – a \$6.25 increase for the average home per year)
- In 2025 the State announced new inspection and maintenance requirements as part of the permit renewal (list below is not all inclusive):
 - Canals and channels from every 5 years to annually
 - Ditches, swales, inlets from every 10 years to every 5 years
 - Non-major outfalls (~6,000) from no requirement to every 5 years
- As such, the Proposed Budget includes an increase of 2% more (\$2.49 per year) for a total of 7% to begin to respond to these requirements

Seminole Fire Rescue District



- **The Proposed Budget includes increasing the property tax rate from 1.5675 mills to 1.8000 mills**
 - **This is to fund a new fire truck, personnel costs, and a new station**
 - **Requires a simple majority vote**
 - **This district is 70.8% unincorporated**
 - **Lowered the millage rate three out of the last four years (totaling 22%)**
 - **1.8000 mills is below the FY21 rate**



Changes to the Proposed Budget



- **Recommendations affecting the General Fund**
 - **Reduce risk reserves by \$2.170M**
 - **Reduce the fleet reserves by \$1.000M**
 - **Reduce the State-required County Match for Juvenile Detention by \$714,490**
 - **Eliminate the reserve for personnel lapse savings by \$980,000**
 - **Reduce one position in the BCC budget totaling \$71,380**

Property Tax Rates



- The changes discussed at the August 14 Work Session total \$4.9M with a reduction of the Countywide General Fund millage rate from 4.5947 mills to 4.5580 mills
- The fourth Countywide Property Tax rate reduction in five years
- If we used the same tax rate before these reductions with the current tax roll, we would be collecting \$100.7M more from our taxpayers
- As well, we have \$43.9M dedicated to transportation infrastructure

Changes to the Proposed Budget



- **Recommendations affecting Non-General Funds**
 - **Reduce the Airport's user fee increase by \$2.612M**
 - **Increase the STAR Center beginning fund balance by \$1.947M**
 - **Increase the Transportation Trust Fund Reserves by \$10**
 - **Three changes to the Utilities Department Capital Budget**
 - **Increase the US19 utility relocations FDOT project by \$1.6M**
 - **Increase the Dunn Pond Liner by \$5.0M**
 - **Adding grant-funded septic to sewer conversions \$455,000**

Next Steps



- **September 4 (this Thursday) – First Public Budget Hearing**
- **September 18 (two weeks later) – Second Public Budget Hearing**
- **October 1 - Fiscal Year 2026 begins**