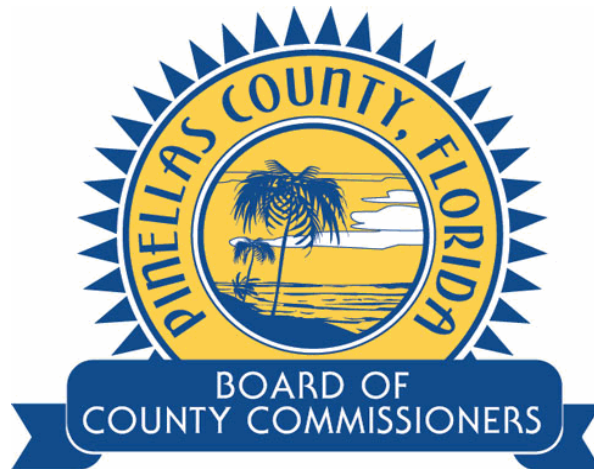


Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

Pinellas County Cooperative Extension
12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo
www.pinellascounty.org



Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 23, 2021
2:00 P.M.

Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.

Dave Eggers, Chair
Charlie Justice, Vice-Chair
Rene Flowers
Pat Gerard
Janet C. Long
Kathleen Peters
Karen Williams Seel

Barry A. Burton, County Administrator
Jewel White, County Attorney
Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION by Pastor Andy Oliver, Allendale United Methodist Church, St. Petersburg.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. [21-060A](#) Partner Presentation:
- Mike Sutton, President & Chief Executive Officer, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties
2. [21-076A](#) Partner Presentation:
- #PurePinellas by Commissioner Justice

LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

3. [21-056A](#) Local State of Emergency.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

4. [21-053A](#) Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 5 through 19**CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER**

5. [21-232A](#) Minutes of the in-person and virtual meeting held December 15, 2020.
6. [21-233A](#) Vouchers and bills paid from January 17 through January 23, 2021.

Reports received for filing:

7. [21-235A](#) Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2020-24 dated December 2, 2020 - Follow-Up Investigation of Misuse of County Purchasing Card.
8. [21-240A](#) Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2021-02 dated February 3, 2021 - Follow-Up Investigation of Misuse of County Equipment.
9. [21-236A](#) Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, 2021 Inspector General's Annual Audit Plan.
10. [21-237A](#) Juvenile Welfare Board Quarterly Financial Statements for the periods ended September 30 and December 31, 2020.

11. [21-238A](#) Quarterly Donation Listing of \$500 or More for the quarter ended December 31, 2020.

12. [21-241A](#) Dock Fee Report for the month of January 2021.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

13. [21-242A](#) Eastlake Oaks Community Development District minutes of the meeting held October 8, 2020.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

14. [20-2085A](#) Award of bid to Dynamic Security, Inc. for security guard services; a Tampa Bay Area Purchasing Cooperative contract.

Recommendation: Rejection of bids from Alert Patrol Inc, Blue Shield Security Protection, Centurion Security Group LLC, Centurion Security Services LLC, Empire Security Services, Inc., Safeguard Protection Services, LLC and Swift Security Inc. on the basis of being non-responsive for not meeting bid requirements further delineated in the summary bullets below.

Approval of the award of bid to Dynamic Security, Inc. for requirements of security guard services; a Tampa Bay Area Purchasing Cooperative (Cooperative) contract.

- * This Cooperative contract is for annual requirements for security guard services.
- * Fourteen bids were received with Dynamic Security, Inc. as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.
- * Dynamic Security, Inc. is the current provider for security guard services.
- * Five of the fourteen bids were deemed non-responsive for not adhering to contract specifications and/or not meeting minimum bid requirements; in addition, two bids were deemed non-responsive for not submitting firm fixed pricing.
- * This contract is facilitated and administered by the Department of Administrative Services; Cooperative participants include the City of St. Petersburg.
- * Cooperative participants are responsible for issuance of their own awards and funding; Cooperative expenditures for the sixty-month term are estimated at \$2,688,396.45 and County expenditures are estimated at \$4,742,168.30 for a total County and Cooperative expenditure in the amount of \$7,430,564.75.
- * The hourly billing rate of the current contract awarded five years ago is \$13.21; the hourly billing rate for the new contract is \$18.83. This comparison is not equitable however as the minimum wage in Florida has increased in the last five years and will continue to increase per Amendment 2 to \$15.00 per hour in 2026. Bidders had to account for these increases when responding to this solicitation.
- * This contract replaces the current contract that was awarded by the Board of County Commissioners on November 24, 2015 in the amount of \$5,035,558.50.
- * Security guard services are utilized at many County facilities including but not limited to the Clearwater Courthouse Complex, the St. Pete Judicial/Courthouse Complex, the South County Service Center, the Keller Water Treatment Plant, and the Public Works Central Campus.

Bid No. 21-0077-B RO for an average annual expenditure of \$948,433.66 with a sixty-month term total of \$4,742,168.30 on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid meeting specifications. Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

County Administrator

15. [21-054A](#) Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending January 31, 2021.

Recommendation: Accept the receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator.

Development Review Services

16. [21-186A](#) Plat of North Point of Palm Harbor, a private residential subdivision.

Recommendation: Approval of the plat for North Point of Palm located in Section 02, Township 28 South, Range 15 east, and acceptance of the sidewalk and street sign guarantees for recording.

* GGR North Point, LLP is submitting this plat as a requirement for Site Plan Number 4687.

* The site is being subdivided into 25-single family lots and six tracts.

* The site is designed to be a private subdivision and all six tracts will be dedicated to the Homeowners Association.

* The private subdivision is located west of Alternate 19 and north of Missouri Avenue.

* Sidewalks and street signs are a requirement of this subdivision.

* One tract holds a conservation easement which is being dedicated to Pinellas County.

17. [21-200A](#) Plat of Silver Ridge, a private residential subdivision.

Recommendation: Approval of the plat for Silver Ridge located on the southwest corner of Belcher Road and Alderman Road in Section 36, Township 27 South, Range 15 East, and acceptance of the sidewalk and street sign guarantees for recording.

* The private subdivision is located on the southwest corner of Belcher Road and Alderman Road.

* Taylor Morrison of Florida, Inc. is submitting this plat as a requirement for Site Plan Number 4692.

* The site is being subdivided into 30-single family lots and two tracts.

* The site is designed to be a private subdivision and the two tracts will be dedicated to the Homeowners Association.

* Sidewalks and Street signs are a requirement of this subdivision.

Public Works

18. [20-1796A](#) Award of bid to Keystone Excavators, Inc. for the Jail Perimeter Road ditch modification project.

Recommendation: Approval of the award of bid to Keystone Excavators, Inc. (Keystone) for the Jail Perimeter Road ditch modification project behind the F-Wing Detention Building.

* This contract consists of improving traffic patterns on Perimeter Road, stabilizing an eroded section of the north bank of Cross Bayou Channel 6 and improving on-site drainage in the vicinity of the F-Wing detention building and kitchen.

* Five bids were received with Keystone recommended for award as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder in the amount of \$1,485,019.00.

* All work will be completed within two hundred seventy consecutive calendar days.

* The Small Business Enterprise goal is seven percent for this contract.

Contract No. 21-0039-CP(PLU); PID No. 003509A; in the amount of \$1,485,019.00; all work will be completed within two hundred seventy consecutive calendar days.

Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

19. [21-185A](#) Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Brian Oliver v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 20-004093-CI-15 - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

Recommendation: Receive and file notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Brian Oliver v. Pinellas County, et al.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Airport

20. [20-1439A](#) Ranking of firms and agreement with Starmark International, Inc. for requirements of promotional and marketing services for the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

Recommendation: Approval of the ranking of firms and agreement with Starmark International, Inc. for requirements of promotional and marketing services for the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE).

* The purpose of this contract is to provide marketing, advertising and public relations/communications services to support the mission of PIE.

* Specifically, this contract provides for the development of an integrated marketing and public relations program targeted at the traveling public, inbound visitors and outbound locals and, a comprehensive and cohesive marketing and outreach strategy to help build the brand and identity of PIE and its airlines and concessionaires to foster economic development.

* Estimated average annual expenditure of \$545,000.00, for a five-year not to exceed amount of \$2,725,000.00.

* With over 1 billion runway-dependent economic impact generated by commercial airlines serving over 50 non-stop destinations, substantial general and corporate aviation, and critical U.S. Coast Guard operations, PIE strives to educate the Tampa Bay area of the benefits it provides.

Contract No. 190-0613-P(JJ); estimated average annual expenditure \$545,000.00, for a 5-year not to exceed amount of \$2,725,000.00. Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

21. [21-079A](#) Resolution authorizing continuation of a \$4.50 Passenger Facility Charge at the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution authorizing St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) to submit Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Application #5 to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to allow continued collection of the PFC fees to fund FAA approved projects. In addition, obtain Chairman's signature on the PFC Application.

* The total PFC revenue to be collected in the new application, through February 1, 2025, is \$6.66M. Funding supports projects such as the purchase of two new Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting vehicles to maintain PIE's safety index and the reconstruction of the decommissioned Runway 09/27 into a new Taxiway.

* The FAA's PFC program allows the collection of PFC fees up to \$4.50 for every enplaned passenger at commercial service airports to fund FAA approved projects that enhance safety, security, or capacity.

* Submitting a new PFC application will ensure that PIE can continue imposing a \$4.50 PFC on each enplanement and can continue collection to fund FAA eligible improvements to PIE's terminal and airfield.

Convention and Visitors Bureau

22. [21-096A](#) Production Agreement with Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, Inc. for the production of "Life's Rewards," an eight segment video series.

Recommendation: Approval of the Production Agreement with Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, Inc. (Visit Florida) for the production of "Life's Rewards," an eight segment video series featuring Visit St. Pete Clearwater as the sole series sponsor.

* Agreement is for \$275,000.00 and will promote the County as the only destination in connection with the production of the "Life's Rewards" video series.

* Agreement represents the County's portion of the total cost of production, which is being equally shared by Visit Florida through their Cooperative Marketing program.

* County will receive national and international exposure through distribution on internet platforms in addition to other promotional and marketing benefits.

* County's advertising agency of record estimates the advertising value for destination exposure in this video series at \$1,042,777.00.

Human Services

23. [21-173A](#) Program recommendation for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant submission.

Recommendation: Approval of the Public Safety Coordinating Council's program recommendation of the Complex Case Reintegration Program for submission to the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse (CJMHSA) Reinvestment Grant.

* The CJMHSA Reinvestment Grant program requires the oversight of a Planning Committee designated by the Board of County Commissioners (Board).

* In Pinellas County, the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) was designated as the Planning Committee by the Board on October 16, 2007 to make program recommendations under CJMHSA Reinvestment Grant. The program requires Board approval of the recommendation prior to submission.

* Due to critical grant timelines, a PSCC public meeting was set for February 5, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

* A competitive solicitation was initiated, and press release issued, for community proposals seeking consideration by the PSCC. No community proposals were received for consideration by the February 4, 2021, 1:00 PM deadline.

* On February 5, 2021, the PSCC held a discussion on the CJMHSA Reinvestment Grant. With no community proposals received, the PSCC voted to recommend the County proceed with a program to help with intensive case management and service connections for reintegration of justice involved individuals coming from the jail and other local referral sources.

* A recent review found that 23% of the Pinellas opioid-related deaths in 2019 had previous jail stays (75 individuals), with approximately 51% of these individuals having a fatal overdose within 6 months of release from jail.

* The recommended program, the Complex Case Reintegration Program, would seek to enhance resources to help bridge these individuals to services and reduce gaps while striving to improve stabilization.

* If the recommendation is approved, Human Services will work with community partners to develop an application for review and submission by March 9, 2021. An in-kind match equal to the award amount is required and will be identified during application development. There is no cash match.

* This grant opportunity funds up to the amount of \$1,200,000.00 over three years.

Public Works

24. [21-066A](#) Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for State Highway lighting, maintenance, and compensation.

Recommendation: Approval of the Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for State Highway lighting, maintenance, and compensation.

* The County has an existing agreement in place with FDOT to maintain and operate lighting on the State Highway System within the County's jurisdictional boundaries.

* The new agreement replaces the existing agreement, in place effective July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2028.

* The performance measure requires the County to maintain the lighting systems with a minimum of 90% of the streetlights operational.

* FDOT reimburses the County at the end of each state fiscal year. The agreement provides for a 3% per-light unit rate increase per future fiscal year.

FDOT Contract No. ASJ68 and Financial Project No. 405604-1-78-45; FDOT will reimburse the County \$1,102,636.98 for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; Agreement term ends June 30, 2028.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

25. [21-123A](#) Appointment/reappointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.

Recommendation: Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, approve the following appointment to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council for a term ending in January 2023.

* Reappointment of Ms. Karen Mullins as Citizen Representative for Commission District 1.

* Reappointment of Mr. Jorge Mercado as Citizen Representative for Commission District 7.

* Appointment of Ms. Jo Dee Nicosia as primary representative for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Ms. Nicosia is the Director of Programs for NAMI. Ms. Nicosia is replacing Ms. Bousher who recently retired.

* Reappointment of Ms. Denise Whitfield as alternate representative for NAMI. Ms. Whitfield is the Executive Director for NAMI.

* Reappointment of Commissioner Julie Peluso as primary representative for Independent Fire Districts. Commissioner Peluso is a Fire Commissioner with the Palm Harbor Special Fire Control & Rescue District.

* Reappointment of Commissioner Kevin Kenney as alternate representative for Independent Fire Districts. Commissioner Kenney is a Fire Commissioner with the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District.

26. [21-122A](#) Reappointment to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board.

Recommendation: Sitting as the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Authority, approve the following reappointments to the EMS Medical Control Board for a two-year term ending January 2023.

* Reappointment of Dr. Stephen Feilinger as a primary Emergency Physician representative. Dr. Feilinger is an emergency physician at St. Anthony's Hospital.

* Reappointment of Dr. Matthew Nelson as an alternate Emergency Physician representative. Dr. Nelson is an emergency physician at St. Anthony's Hospital.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

27. [21-119A](#) Proposed settlement in the case of Carlos Quesada and Sabrina Kremin v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 17-002734-CI.

Recommendation: Consideration of the proposed settlement in the case of Carlos Quesada and Sabrina Kremin v. Pinellas County, et al.

28. [21-217A](#) Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. TTGC, LLC - action for injunctive relief.

Recommendation: Approval and authorization for the County Attorney to initiate litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. TTGC, LLC.

29. [21-057A](#) County Attorney Reports:
- Redistricting Update

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

30. [21-058A](#) County Administrator Reports.

COUNTY COMMISSION

31. [21-059A](#) County Commission New Business: Pertinent and Timely Committee/Board Updates, Policy Considerations, Administrative/Procedural Considerations, and Other New Business.

6:00 P.M.

32. [21-126A](#) Pinellas County Youth Advisory Committee Update.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

33. [21-100A](#) Case No. ZON-21-01 (Katie Hodges)
A request for a zoning change from R-A, Residential Agricultural to R-R, Rural Residential on approximately 1.59 acres located at 4720 Roberts Road in Palm Harbor.

Recommendation: Based upon evidence and findings contained in the staff report and attachments, Case No. ZON-21-01 is recommended for approval:

A Resolution approving the application of Katie Hodges for a change in zoning from R-A, Residential Agriculture to R-R, Rural Residential.

- * The applicant is seeking a zoning change on a 1.59-acre parcel.
- * The proposed use is single-family residential.
- * The zoning change will correct a nonconforming parcel size.
- * The Local Planning Agency unanimously recommended approval of the request (vote 6-0). No one appeared in favor or in opposition.
- * No correspondence in favor or in opposition has been received.

34. [21-101A](#) Case No. Q Z/LU-20-12 (Dushyant Gulati)
A request for a zoning change from R-R, Rural Residential to R-3, Single Family Residential and a land use change from Residential Suburban to Residential Low on approximately 2.18 acres located at 1736 Winchester Road in unincorporated Largo.

Recommendation: Based upon evidence and findings contained in the staff report and attachments, Case No. Z/LU-20-12 is recommended for approval:

- 1.) An Ordinance approving the application of Dushyant Gulati for a land use change from Residential Suburban to Residential Low on approximately 2.18 acres located at 1736 Winchester Road in unincorporated Largo.
- 2.) A Resolution approving a zoning change from R-R, Rural Residential to R-3, Single-Family Residential.

* The applicant is seeking land use and zoning changes on a 2.18-acre property that is vacant except for a barn and sheds.

* The applicant is proposing to develop a single-family detached residential subdivision. Up to 11 residential units are possible under the requested land use category, however the final number of units would be based on site plan review. Up to five units could be built under the current designations.

* The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the request (vote 4-2). Those that voted against the proposal did not cite their reasons. Eight persons appeared in opposition, citing increased density, ecological impacts, construction impacts, noise, light pollution, privacy, utilities, property values and traffic.

* Twenty-seven form letters with distinct signatures and five individual letters in opposition have been received.

a.) The applicant did not submit a formal traffic study; however, staff analysis indicates that the proposed development would have negligible impacts on the carrying capacities of area roadways, including Belcher Road, which is the nearest roadway that is regulated for level of service. The developer would be required to improve the substandard condition of Winchester Road.

b.) The applicant stated that he sent letters seeking feedback to 45 surrounding property owners regarding his proposal and received one response.

c.) The proposed R-3 zoning currently exists on three sides of the subject property. The proposed RL land use is currently adjacent on one side.

35. [21-102A](#)

Case No. LDR-21-01

An Ordinance of Pinellas County, Florida, providing for the amendment of Chapters 138 - Zoning and 154 - Site Development, Right-of-Way Improvements, Subdivisions, and Platting of the Pinellas County Land Development Code and providing for the adoption of the Transportation Design Manual.

Recommendation:

Receive public comment on Case No. LDR-21-01: An Ordinance amending Chapters 138 - Zoning and 154 - Site Development, Right-of-Way Improvements, Subdivisions, and Platting of the Pinellas County Land Development Code and adopting the Transportation Design Manual.

* This is the first of two required public hearings.

* This Ordinance is part of the overall Building and Development Review Services system improvement.

* The Board approved a major update to the Land Development Code in 2018.

* The proposed amendments will provide clarification and additional flexibility, and address redundancies and internal consistency issues that have been discovered since the implementation of the updated Code. Examples of changes include:

a.) Additional staff review flexibility for minor site plan changes and landscaping standards.

b.) Infill development flexibility for legal lots of record.

c.) Additional flexibility for setback and parking requirements.

d.) Enhancements to outdoor lighting standards.

* The proposed amendments were reviewed by interdepartmental County staff, the Development Customer Advisory Group and Forward Pinellas. The changes include ideas and suggestions from these groups.

* The Local Planning Agency unanimously recommended approval of the Ordinance (vote 6-0). No one appeared in support or opposition.

36. [20-1511A](#) Resolution addressing lien forgiveness. (Companion to Items Nos. 37, 38, & 39)

Recommendation: Approval of the lien forgiveness resolution authorizing the Code Enforcement Division (CED) to partially forgive existing liens to ensure proportionality between its code compliance efforts and curtailing excessive liens.

* The County has over 500 properties with lien amounts that far exceed the value of the respective property. The inflated value of these liens is approximately \$300,000,000.00. This resolution coupled with the companion items and more specifically the lien cap ordinance will help create reasonable and equitable compliance measures to promote property improvement and reduce undue delays for reinvestment opportunities.

* Upon implementation of this resolution, CED estimates that the overall lien amounts owed to the County could be reduced from approximately \$300,000,000.00 to a range between \$10,000,000.00 to \$30,000,000.00.

* CED has successfully tested and piloted a lien settlement process that uses an established and consistent methodology, which takes into consideration the factual circumstances of each case and thereby produces a fair and consistent lien reduction offer. This program allows citizens and the County greater flexibility to negotiate and further reduce liens below the maximum cap.

* According to CED records, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, CED settlements averaged approximately, \$7,800.00. The total fines and hard costs recuperated for Special Magistrate cases in FY19 was approximately \$523,000.00.

* Although the total amount owed to the County would be significantly condensed, this resolution to reduce existing liens while functioning in association with the lien cap ordinance would maintain consistency with the current average fine paid through the course of the lien reduction program. These proposed changes are expected to remove monetary barriers, encourage reinvestment and promote the improvement of deteriorating properties in their respective communities.

37. [20-1510A](#) Ordinance amendment addressing capping of Code Enforcement liens. (Companion to Items Nos. 36, 38, & 39)

Recommendation: Approval of the ordinance amendment addressing the capping of liens authorizing the Code Enforcement Division (CED) to partially forgive existing liens to ensure proportionality between code compliance efforts and curtailing excessive liens.

- * The County has over 500 properties with lien amounts that far exceed the value of the respective property. The inflated value of these liens is approximately three hundred million dollars.
- * This ordinance, when coupled with the proposed resolution to authorize partial lien forgiveness will assist the County in addressing disproportionate liens and align our practices with current case law and national standards.
- * Under current practices there are no lien caps, which means if the lien is not addressed in a timely manner, the lien value with its per day accrual amounts can grow to exceed the value of the property and thereby discourage any potential reinvestment in the property.
- * More specifically, the ordinance authorizes capping of liens that exceed twenty thousand dollars per violation when a property is being utilized as a single-family residence and one hundred thousand dollars per violation on a property that is not a single-family residence (i.e.: commercial properties, or properties with more than four units).
- * Property owners are afforded an opportunity to further reduce liens once the property has been complied. CED's reduction settlement process uses an established and consistent methodology and thereby produces a fair and consistent offer to reduce. Reductions are subject to the specific case circumstances and vary based upon designation of property type and total number of violations per property.
- * When a property owner, has extenuating personal circumstances that warrant further consideration they can request the opportunity to be heard by a committee, which may recommend additional reductions.

38. [20-1512A](#) Ordinance amendment addressing Code Enforcement demolitions and condemnations. (Companion to Items Nos. 36, 37, & 39)

Recommendation: Approval of the ordinance amendment addressing Code Enforcement demolitions and condemnations. The Code Enforcement Division (CED) recommends the adoption of the updated ordinance governing demolition and condemnations of unsafe buildings and structures in unincorporated Pinellas County.

- * The County's current governing ordinances regulating condemnation and demolition matters are outdated and limit CED's ability to timely and lawfully resolve unsafe conditions.
- * The complete adoption and approval of the ordinance and companion items will provide CED in partnership the County Attorney's Office (CAO) the ability to lawfully and expeditiously address unsafe properties and help promote compliance and improve the overall health, safety and welfare of our citizens.
- * This ordinance coupled with the companion items authorizes CED and the CAO to initiate the demolition process for noncompliance in as little as thirty calendar days following a court or Special Magistrate rulings.
- * In most situations and under current practices CED must entirely depend on the property owners to make suitable repairs and or demolitions to unsafe property conditions. Unfortunately, this avenue is not effective for absent or grossly negligent property owners and in most cases these properties continue to deteriorate becoming less safe for several years before they are addressed, typically by private ventures.
- * This ordinance will ensure due process is afforded to responsible parties, while also maintaining compliance with applicable state statutes governing homestead guidelines.

39. [20-1513A](#) Ordinance amendment addressing the delegation of authority for litigation. (Companion to Items Nos. 36, 37, & 38)

Recommendation: Approval of the ordinance amendment granting the County Attorney's Office (CAO) limited authority to expeditiously initiate litigation to foreclose on a lien and/or seek injunctions on properties previously found to be non-compliant through a quasi-judicial hearing before the Special Magistrate.

* Currently, the Code Enforcement Division (CED) has limited options to expeditiously promote compliance and demolish unsafe properties in a timely manner.

* The ordinance would allow the CAO the opportunity to initiate timely litigation without bringing each matter to the Board of County Commissioners for individual authorization.

* This ordinance coupled with the companion items will significantly expedite the County's ability to institute equitable lien remedies within a reasonable timeframe and utilize the higher courts to swiftly address unsafe properties and improve the overall value.

* This ordinance will ensure due process is afforded to responsible parties, while also maintaining compliance with applicable state statutes governing homestead guidelines.

* The CED and the CAO will continue to observe State Homestead protections and will ensure appropriate litigation avenues when addressing homestead properties.

ADJOURNMENT

Special Accommodations

Persons with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations to effectively participate in this meeting are asked to contact Pinellas County's Office of Human Rights by e-mailing such requests to accommodations@pinellascounty.org at least three (3) business days in advance of the need for reasonable accommodation. You may also call (727) 464-4882.

Public Participation Procedures

Persons wishing to comment regarding a specific agenda item should do so:

In person - by preregistering at pinellascounty.org/comment or by filling out a comment card with the County staff person in the meeting room; or,

Virtually - in advance in accordance with the instructions in the notice of this meeting, or on the virtual platform or phone after preregistering.

Members of the public wishing to make comments on the virtual platform or by phone must preregister by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting. At the scheduled section of the meeting when the item is before the Board of County Commissioners (Board), the Chairman or Clerk will call on each individual, one by one, to be heard. Each individual may speak for up to three minutes as may be modified by the Chairman. Comments or behavior that violate Pinellas County Commission Public Participation and Decorum Rules will be disconnected. Members of the public who cannot attend at the time an agenda item is before the Board may offer comments during the Citizens to Be Heard section near the beginning of the meeting. More information is available at www.pinellascounty.org/BCC_Participation.htm or by calling (727) 464-4400.

Public Hearing Procedures

The procedure used by the Board in conducting Public Hearings is to have a staff presentation followed by the applicant presenting the specific proposal. The Board will then hear comments from the proponents, the opponents and a staff summary. The applicant will then be given an opportunity to close and the Board will decide on the matter. Public Hearings before the Board are governed by the provisions of Section 134 -14 of the Pinellas County Land Development Code as may be modified by Pinellas County Emergency Order. That code provides that at the conclusion of each person's presentation, any speaker may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of staff.

Specifically:

1. At the conclusion of the presentations by the applicant and any proponents, all affected parties may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of or seek clarification from the applicant and/or the proponents.
2. At the conclusion of the presentation by the opponents, all affected parties may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of or seek clarification from any opponent.

The applicant's closing comments will address testimony subsequent to his or her presentation. Continuing rebuttal of other than directly preceding testimony will not be allowed. Because much testimony has already been submitted in writing, the following guidelines accommodate efficient presentations:

1. The applicant should present his or her entire case, including rebuttal, in no more than 20 minutes.
2. Persons wishing to speak regarding a Public Hearing item may speak for up to three minutes each.
3. Persons wishing to attend virtually must preregister at pinellascounty.org/comment by 5 p. m. the day before the meeting.

Appeals

Persons are advised that, if they decided to appeal any decision made at this meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceeding, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

If a Board meeting beginning at 9:30 A.M. has not concluded by noon, a recess will be taken from noon to 12:30 P.M., and the remainder of the meeting will continue at 12:30 P.M.

If a Board meeting beginning at 2:00 P.M. has not concluded by 5:30 P.M., a recess will be taken from 5:30 to 6:00 P.M. The remainder of the afternoon agenda will resume at 6:00 P.M., followed by Public Hearings.