

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 3:28 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Live Form

Topic	Stadium Bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Elizabeth Vanneste
Address	90 29th St S St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Phone	+17272391025
Email	elizvanneste@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:52 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Live Form

Topic Rays Stadium Funding
BCC Agenda Date 11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue Oppose
Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name Matthew Redden
Address 3340 74th Ave N Apt A
St Petersburg, FL 33702
Phone +15702042932
Email mredden1@comcast.net

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:50 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Live Form

Topic Stadium bonds
BCC Agenda Date 11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue Oppose
Comments [E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name Laura Crabtree
Address 8789 15th Street N
St. Petersburg, FL 33702
Phone +17274345303
Email lauracrabtree610@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:24 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Bonds issuance for Trop Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Maryellen Gordon
Address	80 Rogers St., #5A Clearwater, Florida 33756
Phone	+19177215773
Email	maryellengordon1@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:55 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

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Topic	Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Thomas Ritschel
Address	136 8th Ave.NE St. Petersburg, FL 33701-2522
Phone	+13142206833
Email	trmicropaver@att.net

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:24 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Stadium Bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Atle Moe
Address	175 1st St. South, Unit 3404 St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone	
Email	Flekkimanjunk@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:59 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: FW:

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:21 AM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Tropicana Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-18-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Aleth Voarick
Address	2000 Oak St NE St Petersburg, FL 33704
Phone	+17274550323
Email	aleth.voarick@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:59 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: FW:

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:57 AM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Stadium Bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Stephanie Morris
Address	101 9TH AVE NE SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33701
Phone	+115103250517
Email	stephmaurer@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:59 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: FW:

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:45 PM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Reconsider gas plant project approval
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-24
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Thomas Cason
Address	175 1st St S Unit 2408 St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone	+17278272026
Email	bargelife23@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:58 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: FW:

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:50 PM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Reconsider gas plant project approval
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-24
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Carol Cason
Address	175 1st St S Unit 2408 St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone	+17278272026
Email	bargelife23@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
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To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Stadium Bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Stephanie Morris
Address	101 9TH AVE NE SAINT PETERSBURG, FL 33701
Phone	+115103250517
Email	stephmaurer@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: THOMAS BAZZONE <tbazzone@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:51 AM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; kpeters@pinellas.gov; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@schererforpinellas.com; vince@vincenmowicki.com
Subject: VOTE NO ON BONDS

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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I urge you to vote against approval of issuing bonds to fund a new baseball stadium in Pinellas County.

The thorough analysis of the County's upcoming spending required to keep its citizens safe and maintain our most precious tourist attractions, presented on homerunsmatter.com, provides compelling data to support rejection. The challenges we face going forward were brought sharply into focus by the recent hurricanes. We must face reality and concentrate on minimizing future damage while maintaining the attractiveness of our natural beauty and beaches for tourism.

The 28 acres designated for the stadium would be better developed for business and residential uses and eliminate the congestion and infrastructure requirements a new stadium would create. Moreover, St. Petersburg could realize the true value of the property by selling it at market value and guiding its development in cooperation with developers who have the best interests of the city and county in focus.

I trust you will leave emotion out of your bond issue decision and save the county from deterioration going forward.

Thomas J. Bazzone
701 Cordova Blvd NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33704

Eres, Christian L

From: Lugo, Jo A
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 10:44 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Cc: O'Donnell, Stacy
Subject: FW:

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Stadium bonds
BCC Agenda Date	
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Lyn Taylor
Address	825 37th Ave N St Pete, FL 33704
Phone	+17274538630
Email	ltorders@hotmail.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:

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

FYI

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov <noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:26 AM
To: Board of County Commissioners Distribution Group <BoardofCountyCommissionersDistributionGroup@pinellas.gov>
Subject:

Live Form

Topic	Proposed Bond for Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-01-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Dianne Kipp
Address	450 Treasure Island Cswy Treasure Island, FL 33706
Phone	+17274811646
Email	dianne@diannekipp.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Steve Castiglioni <baines36@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:22 AM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; kpeters@pinellas.gov; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@scherrerforpinellas.com; vince@vincenmowicki.com
Subject: Vote NO

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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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.

We strongly urge you to vote NO - do not authorize Pinellas County to issue bonds to build a stadium. We don't think it is too strong to say that the future of our economy, our homes, our beaches, our infrastructure, and our jobs depend on it.

We 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!!

Our 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 damaging storms.
3. The uncertain sources of funds to repair the beaches and infrastructure 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, could 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.

But those assumptions are now seriously challenged. We have been hit by two hurricanes - the impact on the county is serious. And now we hope you would agree, we are all deeply concerned that we can get hit by future storms.

The beaches lost 30 years worth of beach re-nourishment from hurricanes Helene and Milton – and the cost of repairs are 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, there is no guarantee that either the federal government or state goVermont will help pay the cost of repairs. Consider what about the potential \$130 million we will need after the next storm?

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 and damage.

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 concerned about when the next storm will hit our homes and businesses, trying to decide if we should rebuild or not, don’t we have to fiscally plan about the next time? And consider the real 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 of Mexico and move directly east at us. But now that it has happened, everyone should be aware it can happen again.

With these real concerns in mind, we need to have the funds for regular beach and infrastructure 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. Petersburg /Clearwater’s 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 estate 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. Do not let ego having a MLB team trump our best interests.

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.

We feel strongly that the need to focus on our infrastructure and our beaches takes precedence over this boondoggle.

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 Plant property.

3. As you know, 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.

In no way should you feel pressured by recent articles in the press. The time has come for courageous action.

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

If we am can be helpful in anyway, please contact us.

Steven L Castiglioni
Kimberly S Castiglioni
City of Saint Petersburg

Sent from my iPhone

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 9:21 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Tropicana Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-18-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Aleth Voarick
Address	2000 Oak St NE St Petersburg, FL 33704
Phone	+17274550323
Email	aleth.voarick@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Jeremy Tollberg <j_tollberg@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 8:49 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Upcoming Stadium Vote

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Jeremy Tollberg
417 Lido Way NE
Saint Petersburg, FL 33704
941.527.8124

Dear Commissioner Eggers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed allocation of county funds for the construction of a new stadium in Saint Petersburg. While the potential for community benefits and economic growth through such a project is clear, I strongly believe that approving funds for this endeavor at this time would be an irresponsible financial decision, particularly in light of the recent hurricanes and the ongoing need for critical infrastructure investments, such as beach renourishment.

As you are aware, our area beaches are a vital part of both our local economy and the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. The impact of coastal erosion, exacerbated by increasingly frequent storms, poses a long-term threat to our community's infrastructure, tourism revenue, and environmental health. The need for ongoing beach renourishment is urgent. Without it, we risk losing our beaches and the economic benefits they bring, not to mention the damage to homes, businesses, and public spaces along our waterfront.

Given these pressing needs, I believe that funding for beach renourishment and stormwater management should take precedence over a large-scale project like the stadium. Rather than committing millions of taxpayer dollars to a stadium that will require ongoing maintenance, insurance, and possibly further storm repairs, we should be investing in the protection and restoration of our coastal environment, which supports a broader range of residents, businesses, and wildlife.

In addition, recent hurricanes have shown us how vulnerable our infrastructure is to the effects of climate change. We must be proactive in ensuring that our county is resilient, and this includes not only maintaining our beaches but also strengthening our stormwater systems and flood protection measures. The proposed stadium would create long-term fiscal obligations that could potentially strain city and county resources, leaving us less prepared to deal with future storms and their aftermath.

I urge you to reconsider approving funds for the stadium at this time and instead direct our resources toward critical infrastructure needs, including beach renourishment, storm preparedness, and the rebuilding of vulnerable areas. Protecting our beaches and ensuring the resilience of our county should be our top priority—these efforts will pay dividends in the long run for both our residents and the economy.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. I trust you will carefully weigh the long-term benefits of prioritizing our county's environmental and infrastructure needs before committing to this costly stadium project.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Tollberg

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 8:03 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	stadium funding
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Karen Dublino
Address	6626 14th Street N St. Petersburg, FL 33702
Phone	+118134041066
Email	karenthro@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Norman A - Correspondent <normlupo@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:22 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Cc: wtsp TV news tips; Integrity Florida; Tracy McManus-TBT's writer; Graham Brink
Subject: Tampa Bay Times

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<https://enewspaper.tampabay.com/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=Tampa%20Bay%20Times&pubid=27bcf1f6-2c69-49a3-b3c3-6ed405da14fd>

My thoughts.

Too many public tax millions....to many uncertainties, too many questions..to much debt.

Let the Rays owners go elsewhere to another state and try and get tens of millions of their various sources of public tax millions.

As far as the bcc TDTaxes, use now and balance for more hurricanes 🌀 that will require sand coastal replenished....per fs125.0104 which is so stated.

As for

St Petersburg taxes....for their many citywide needs.

Your thoughts?

N

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter"...MLK

Eres, Christian L

From: bartlettparkneighborhood@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:40 PM
To: Peters, Kathleen; Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; vince@vincenowicki.com; chris@schererforpinellas.com
Subject: Please vote no on stadium bonds

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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I had supported the team by buying tickets every year.

But

We need to construct thousands of new affordable homes.

We need to upgrade our stormwater infrastructure.

We need a new St Petersburg city service building.

The city, county, school district and transit authority need the Rays owner and their partners to pay a fair share of property taxes.

We need to improve bus service.

The wealth being given to the billionaire owner of the Rays is enough to pay for these needs without raising taxes and fees. Pinellas county made a decision to pay for a new stadium based on assumptions but conditions have dramatically changed since July.

We had hoped that the federal government would change their mind and pay to fix the beaches. The election brought new national leadership with new priorities like tax cuts, a balanced budget, less regulation of oil drilling; and a trade war with Europe and Asia, where many visitors come from. Can we pay the entire cost of fixing beaches without federal help?

Our new president says “Drill Baby Drill”, so we should plan to deal with more oil spills interfering with tourism.

We had hoped that the cost of beach nourishment would be like our experience in recent decades. Two destructive storms within a few weeks tells us we need to prepare for much worse destruction.

What is the potential cost of annual beach restoration with more storm damage?

Commissioner Scott said that he wants a positive ROI on public spending for a new stadium. One thing economists agree on is that stadiums do not pay for themselves, they merely transfer money to the team owner from other local businesses. A positive return on investment is possible if we don't spend more than the expected return.

We face new challenges in bringing visitors and need to focus tourist tax spending on what works the best

Please vote no on the Rays deal and demand a fair deal for Saint Petersburg residents and please get an accurate appraisal of the Gas Plant property.

Please strike a better deal.

--

Tom Tito, President
Bartlett Park Neighborhood Association

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:12 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Topic	Repair Tropicanna
BCC Agenda Date	11-18-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Undecided
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Rob Mun
Address	3208 Shimmy Ln 3208 Shimmy Ln, 3208 Shimmy Ln 3208 Shimmy Ln
Phone	+1(850) 4432252
Email	rhmunroe@aol.com

Eres, Christian L

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To: BCC Agenda Comments

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Live Form

Topic	Stadium Bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-24
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Sarah Peacock
Address	5155 10th Ave N st. petersburg, FL 33710
Phone	+17275203964
Email	

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 7:44 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Municipal Bonds for Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Mary catok
Address	5910 Bayou Grande Blvd NE St Petersburg, FL 33703
Phone	+17275279531
Email	mcatok@tampabay.rr.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 6:50 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Stadium bonds
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Sarah Lampe
Address	253 33rd Ave N St Petersburg, FL 33704
Phone	+17272603221
Email	sarahedlampe@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:50 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Reconsider gas plant project approval
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-24
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Carol Cason
Address	175 1st St S Unit 2408 St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone	+17278272026
Email	bargelife23@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:45 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

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Topic	Reconsider gas plant project approval
BCC Agenda Date	11-19-24
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Thomas Cason
Address	175 1st St S Unit 2408 St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone	+17278272026
Email	bargelife23@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Marc Jensen <mwjensen58@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 3:11 PM
To: Cynthia.sheppard@stpete.org; Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; vince@vincenowicki.com; chris@chererforinellas.com
Subject: No to stadium bonds

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Good day,
I live in St Petersburg. I'm asking you to vote NO on the stadium bonds. Our priority is making the necessary improvements to our water, wastewater and stormwater systems. Our community needs to be repaired and protected. We can't afford to add debt for a stadium.

Thank you for your services and responsiveness to voters and taxpayers. Please distribute this message to all commissioners and council members.

Let's find a deal that benefits the people of St Petersburg who will live with this for decades, rather than the developer who will not.

--

Best,

Marc

Marc JENSEN
mwjensen58@gmail.com
106 8th Avenue NE, St Petersburg, FL 33701, United States
+1-516-356-6414

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:26 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Proposed Bond for Stadium
BCC Agenda Date	11-01-2024
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Dianne Kipp
Address	450 Treasure Island Cswy Treasure Island, FL 33706
Phone	+17274811646
Email	dianne@diannekipp.com

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:03 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

Live Form

Topic	Stadium bonds
BCC Agenda Date	
Your Stand on the Issue	Oppose
Comments	[E01D7CCE-39EB-4255-BC2F-90ABA5E7C9F0]
Citizen Name	Lyn Taylor
Address	825 37th Ave N St Pete, FL 33704
Phone	+17274538630
Email	ltorders@hotmail.com

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

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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.

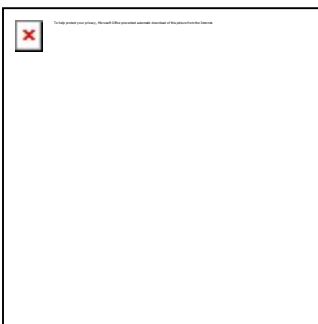
In conclusion:

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: Tom Rask <tom@rask.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 6:30 AM
To: Scott, Brian; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Nowicki, Vince; Scherer, Chris; Eggers, Dave; Robinson-Flowers, Rene
Subject: Sternberg blames county commission, speaks through the Times

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To: The Pinellas County Commissioners Scott, Latvala and Peters (Districts 2, 5 and 6, respectively)
Bcc: Concerned citizens of Pinellas County

?Last month, the County Commission upended our ballpark agreement by not approving their bonds, as they promised to do,? team owner [Stuart Sternberg said yesterday](#) through his meat puppet John Obamarama Romano of the Tampa Bay Times. ?That action [a mere two week delay] sent a clear message that we had lost the county as a partner."

You don't need me to tell you that the first salvo of the Blame Game thus has been fired. You probably already saw John Romanobama's disgraceful column yesterday, but I wanted to "contextualize" it for you through my characterization of what Sternberg is doing...and how he is doing it.

The Times is providing Sternberg a free (?) meat puppet cum attack dog in the form of John Romano-lama-ding-dong, who didn't bother to reach out to any of you for a response to Sternberg's claims. The transformation of the Times from a news outlet to a paid circular is now complete.

Here's my take: Sternberg is trying to blackmail you into voting yes on Tuesday. "It's this deal or no deal, my way or the highway," is what Sternberg is telling you. He has the team up for sale, so he's in a hurry to get our public funds. Interest rates are headed down, so he wants to get going with construction, and may not care if he ever has a stadium on the Trop site. Maybe that was his plan all along?

As a small business owner and mid-seven figure real estate investor (land), I know that capitalism works. But subsidizing pro sports teams is faux capitalism, or "crapitalism" if you will.

In a separate email, I will try to convince you all to vote NO, including Commissioner Flowers (the sole Democrat now on the commission). Yes, I hope to actually convince all of you to vote NO.

Last year, I wrote to the BCC and asked that you *"let the people express their will at the ballot box. Whether the referendum is binding or non-binding upon the BCC is less important, what matters is that this enormous county expenditure of \$300 million be put to the voters of Pinellas County....As long as it is a fair and proper referendum with no public funds spent on county advocacy masquerading as 'voter information,'I for one will accept the outcome of such a referendum."*

Some of you might be wishing right now that such a referendum *had* taken place, so that you could point to its results as a mandate for your vote. But that's in the rear view mirror now, and maybe a new stadium soon will be in the rear view mirror as well.

Regards,

Tom Rask

Eres, Christian L

From: Tom Rask <tom@rask.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 6:30 AM
To: Scott, Brian; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Nowicki, Vince; Scherer, Chris; Eggers, Dave; Robinson-Flowers, Rene
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Regards,

Tom Rask

Eres, Christian L

From: Norman A - Correspondent <normlupo@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 12:30 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Re: Tampa Bay Times

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Resent
Correction/ typo
TDTaxes
Please respond
Normlupo@outlook.com

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter"...MLK

From: Norman A - Correspondent <normlupo@outlook.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:33:14 AM
To: Dave Eggers <deggers@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject: Tampa Bay Times

<https://enewspaper.tampabay.com/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=Tampa%20Bay%20Times&pubid=27bcf1f6-2c69-49a3-b3c3-6ed405da14fd>

With this news
The people's Pinellas. GTDTaxes should be for renourishment **not for the St Petersburg downtown stadium.**
Just common sense.
But common sense in bcc thinking is MIA
Normlupo@outlook.com

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter"...MLK

Eres, Christian L

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Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2024 12:30 AM
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Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:33:14 AM
To: Dave Eggers <deggers@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject: Tampa Bay Times

<https://enewspaper.tampabay.com/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=Tampa%20Bay%20Times&pubid=27bcf1f6-2c69-49a3-b3c3-6ed405da14fd>

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But common sense in bccc thinking is MIA
Normlupo@outlook.com

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter"...MLK

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of pkent1109 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 6:19 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: the consequential vote on November 19 regarding the issuance of TDT bonds from Peter E. Kent #30522287

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4
Commissioner Chris Latvala - District 5

Your Name Peter E. Kent

Subject the consequential vote on November 19 regarding the issuance of TDT bonds

Message Thank you for your previous vote against approving the Rays-Hines deal. As you prepare for the consequential vote on November 19 regarding the issuance of TDT bonds for the Rays stadium, I urge you to consider the broader implications of this decision for our community. As former President Obama wisely stated, "Elections have consequences." The recent electoral outcomes in other cities, such as Chicago and Kansas City, demonstrate a clear trend: voters are increasingly skeptical of taxpayer subsidies for sports facilities.

In Pinellas County, Commissioners Elect Nowicki and Scherer election reflects a growing concern among constituents about the financial commitments we are being asked to make to the Rays. If the commission votes to postpone or reject the issuance of these bonds, the potential benefits for our community are substantial.

By not moving forward with the \$335 million in TDT bonds, you free \$21.6 million annually in Tourist Development Taxes over the next 30 years, which could be allocated to vital projects such as beach restoration and cultural attractions like museums. This is a far more effective way to attract tourists than the mere 3% who currently visit for sporting events. Furthermore, if we were to develop the 17 acres designated for the stadium into housing, we could generate approximately \$640 million in county-city-school taxes over 30 years, providing essential funding for better schools and lower taxes for residents.

While perhaps not a overriding concern for the County Commissioners, a no vote on

this bond deal also translates to significant savings for the city. The repairs to the existing stadium, which will likely cost \$75 million after insurance, will not be needed. The city would save from not issuing \$287.5 million in stadium bonds and \$142 million in infrastructure improvements, amounting to a net savings of approximately \$846 million including bond interest. The 87 acres could be sold to a developer for about \$14 million an acre or \$1.2 billion, for a net increase of \$1.1 billion over the \$105 million the Rays-Hines is offering. This \$2 billion could be redirected toward addressing the \$5 billion in necessary water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure improvements as outlined in engineering studies for the city, as well as subsidized housing and tax relief for residents. The recent hurricanes have shown how vital these infrastructure upgrades are before the next near hit.

Moreover, if the Rays are unable to secure a massive taxpayer subsidy, they may be compelled to negotiate a fairer deal that reflects the true costs of running their business. It is essential that we hold all businesses, including the Rays, accountable for their financial responsibilities.

In conclusion, I urge you to consider the long-term benefits of rejecting this bond deal. The potential for increased funding for essential community projects, coupled with the financial savings for taxpayers, presents a compelling case for prioritizing the needs of our residents over the interests of a billionaire sports franchise owner.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I trust that you will make a decision that reflects the best interests of our community.

Peter E. Kent, P.E,
Retired Commissioner of Public Works and City Engineer for Niskayuna, NY

Your Street Address	8 Academy Way
City/Unincorporated County	St. Petersburg
Zip Code	33711
Your Phone Number	727-479-3956
Your Email Address	pkent1109@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Carolyn Lane <lanecaroly@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 5:51 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Vote no on this he Ray/Hines deal

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Please vote no on the Ray/Hines deal. It is burdensome for taxpayers with too little community benefit such as the affordable housing proposal.

Carolyn Lane (she/her/hers)
1120 N Shore Dr NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
lanecaroly@gmail.com
312.208.3133

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of wballard1255 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:35 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Stadium: CITY CAN'T HANDLE INFRASTRUCTURE FIX AND STADIUM
from William C. Ballard #30521533

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 William C. Ballard

Subject Stadium: CITY CAN'T HANDLE INFRASTRUCTURE FIX AND STADIUM

Message Before Helene and Milton City's sewer and stormwater systems CIP was \$5billion over next 25 years. The City has repeatedly underestimated its costs to fix and upgrade these systems to accomodate growth and the increased threat of more frequent hurricanes and increased intensity of them. Center for Ocean -Atmospheric Prediction at FSU predicts 11 year return period for Tampa Bay. Fixing these systems in 10 years would require a minimum of \$500 million per year that would mostly be paid for by the City residents' earnings and savings paid into the general fund and to the City's water, sewer and stormwater enterprises under greatly increased rates. The entire FY2025 city budget is about \$908 million. PLEASE PLEASE, VOTE NO ON RAYS BOND DEAL.

Your Street Address 5560 Bahama Shores DR S, Unit 608

City/Unincorporated County St. Petersburg

Zip Code 33705

Your Phone Number 7278047920

Your Email Address wballard1255@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of dmoglesby at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 11:24 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: New Baseball Stadium from Donna Oglesby #30521514

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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
- County Administrator

Your Name Donna Oglesby

Subject New Baseball Stadium

Message

I write again to request that you do not fund this new stadium project. We have so much to do in this city to recover from the season of hurricanes and build the infrastructure we need to withstand climate events in the future. We just learned that our city must spend \$5 billion to fix our 50-year-old water, sewer and stormwater systems according to the City's public works director. These old systems are the reason sewage was flowing down our streets, and we had to boil our drinking water. I have lived in third world countries and I know the health implications of poor facilities. On top of that we city taxpayers must pay a deductible of \$25 million to repair the Trop, which under the current plan will be demolished in two years. Please get your priorities straight. Don't fund the new stadium.

Your Street Address 1095 Pinnellas Point Dr. S.

City/Unincorporated County St. Petersburg

Zip Code 33705

Your Phone Number 727-515-2980

Your Email Address dmoglesby@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: William Ballard <wballard1255@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 10:58 AM
To: Long, Janet C; Scott, Brian; Justice, Charlie; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Stephen Kempe
Subject: CITY CAN'T HANDLE STADIUM AND INFRASTRUCTURE FIX
Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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The Stadium and Historic Gas Plant deal documents vouched for the sufficiency of St. Petersburg's utility systems. In April 2024 the City issued a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the city's water, sewer, and stormwater systems. In late September and early October these systems failed us during Hurricanes Helene and Milton. We all now know that these systems were neither reliable nor resilient. A 2022 report by the Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies at Florida State University depicted an anticipated hurricane return period for the Tampa Bay area of 8-11 years. These facts strongly suggest that there are important questions that should be answered and issues considered by City Council before it votes to authorize issuance of \$287.5 million TIF bonds to fund a contribution in like amount to the Tampa Bay Rays.

- Will the \$5 billion allocated to the city's water, sewer and stormwater systems under the 2024 (CIP) improve these utility systems sufficiently to avoid future losses such as those our city's residents and businesses are trying to recover from today? Does the 2024 CIP itself need an upgrade to incorporate what was learned from the subsequent system failures?
- Is the \$5 billion allocation from the 2024 utility CIP just another in a series of well documented underestimates by city administration of the cost of providing these systems with sufficient capacity and resilience? Some of these prior estimates were \$326 million in 2017, \$1 billion in 2019, and \$3 billion in 2021.
- Will the 2024 CIP's 25-year implementation period for improvement of these utility systems provide too little too late – in other words, with a likely return period of about 10 years, does this implementation period need to be shortened to 10 years to, hopefully, avoid another major utility system failure?

The city's 2025 operating budget is about \$910 million. The combined FY 2025 water, sewer, and stormwater CIP appropriation is about \$155 million. A \$5 billion 25-year CIP nominally requires, on average, \$200 million each year. A 10-year program nominally would require \$500 million each year – a sum which could not be practically carved out of a 910 million city annual operating budget. Do not approve the expenditure of hundreds of millions of public funds to retain an amenity the city can no longer afford. Adopt a resolution or policy that would require a new utilities CIP and a budget

review that identifies every source of funds that would enable the city to achieve a reliable and resilient utility system in the shortest possible time. If you divert significant funds to baseball, you stretch the implementation period for fixing these essential utility systems and increase the likelihood of hurricane loss.

In short, reduce risk to the extent you can as soon as you can. Because of financial constraints, the city likely cannot avoid at least one more significant loss attributable to the utility systems, but you may have mitigated the loss. That would be a win.

William C. Ballard, a St. Petersburg citizen
2024

November 13,

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of vcaintic at hotmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 10:47 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Vote against bonds financing Rays Stadium from Vincent Caintic # 30520824

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 Kathleen Peters - District 6 (2024 Chair) Commissioner René Flowers - District 7
Your Name	Vincent Caintic
Subject	Vote against bonds financing Rays Stadium
Message	Hi Commissioner, I live in Pinellas County, in Eden Isle in St. Pete. I would like you to vote "No" on issuing bonds for financing the Tampa Bay Rays stadium. Thank you.
Your Street Address	980 Eden Isle Dr NE
City/Unincorporated County	St. Petersburg
Zip Code	33704
Your Email Address	vcaintic@hotmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of gmleffleur at yahoo.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 8:41 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: bonds for the Rays from Gary LeFleur #30520649

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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- 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	Gary LeFleur
Subject	bonds for the Rays
Message	Vote No
Your Street Address	1878 Del Robles Dr
City/Unincorporated County	Clearwater
Zip Code	33764
Your Phone Number	7274882500
Your Email Address	gmleffleur@yahoo.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: jc jonathanchambers.net <jc@jonathanchambers.net>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 8:11 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Please vote NO on Rays Stadium funding

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Commissioner:

I agree with this commentary.

<https://homerunsmatter.com/we-need-your-leadership-now/>

Be a leader. Vote NO on Rays Stadium funding.

Jonathan Chambers
St. Petersburg Resident
1904 2nd St S.

Jonathan Chambers
904.982.7711

Eres, Christian L

From: Daniel Amend <letusalone@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 8:01 PM
To: Long, Janet C; Latvala, Christopher; Justice, Charlie; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Scott, Brenda D; Eggers, Dave; Burton, Barry; Peters, Kathleen
Subject: With leaders like you...
Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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It was a bad deal, and bad timing. All you folks care about is being in the club, bugger flag electric busses, tax money, and FEMA reimbursements.

I always knew a bunch of you Commissioners were access grifters. Now everyone knows.

Good job, folks.

'It's unfortunate': Pinellas County commissioner feels betrayed by Rays' decision to play in Tampa for 2025

<https://www.abcactionnews.com/sports/baseball/rays/its-unfortunate-pinellas-county-commissioner-feels-betrayed-by-rays-decision-to-play-in-tampa-for-2025>

A Pinellas County commissioner will vote against issuing the bonds necessary to finance the Tampa Bay Rays stadium deal after the team announced it will play its 2025 season in Tampa.

Sincerely,

Daniel Amend III
12541 82nd Avenue
Seminole FL 33776
Letusalone@yahoo.com
[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of apacecca at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 7:45 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Pls vote no on bonds for the Rays from Andrea #30520553

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 Andrea

Subject Pls vote no on bonds for the Rays

Message Pls vote no on bonds for the Rays!

Your Street Address 2184 Nolan Dr

City/Unincorporated County Largo

Zip Code 33770

Your Email Address apacecca@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of davidorb at eckerd.edu
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 3:26 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Responsibility to Taxpayers means voting NO to stadium bonds. Taxpayer Watch Report said this is a bad deal for taxpayers. Please protect taxpayers. from Christopher Lerbs #30519413

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
- County Administrator

Your Name Christopher Lerbs

Subject Responsibility to Taxpayers means voting NO to stadium bonds. Taxpayer Watch Report said this is a bad deal for taxpayers. Please protect taxpayers.

Message

I agree with the following letter to the Tampa Bays Times Editorial Board. Please vote NO on the stadium bonds. Taxpayers want taxes (including the \$60 million in County property taxes in addition to bed taxes) being spent on a private use stadium to be spent on beaches, infrastructure and improvements to the 50 year old water, wastewater and stormwater systems. Many taxpayers are homeless. It is cruel to give their money to a billionaire for the sole purpose of increasing the team's and thus the team owners' personal wealth. The City is spending \$55 million to improv the Trop. The Rays can play there for another year and work out a more balanced deal for taxpayers.

Dear Tampa Bay Times Editorial Board,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding your recent editorial entitled "Pinellas Has Too Much at Stake to Scuttle Rays Stadium Deal" published on November 15th.

You stated that it would be a "bad look" for the city or county to back out of the

stadium deal. However, it is crucial to remember that when the Rays entered into this contract, they did so knowing that it was contingent upon approval by the St. Petersburg City Council and the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners for the sale of bonds. This means the deal was always conditional, not final. Comparing this to a home sale, it is akin to a buyer’s offer being contingent on obtaining financing – a common and understood part of such transactions. Should the buyer fail to secure a mortgage, the sale does not proceed. This is not a matter of trust; it is an inherent part of the process.

You also mentioned that “kneecapping the agreement at this stage would send all the wrong signals to any business that might want to move” here. However, businesses and investors are well aware that deals subject to financing are not guaranteed until all conditions are met. To suggest otherwise is misleading and does not account for the complexities involved in large-scale financing projects.

Furthermore, our community recently endured two significant storms, which starkly highlighted our vulnerability and the urgent need for resilient infrastructure. The extensive damage to our water, sewage, and road systems requires immediate attention and substantial investment. Many residents have lost their homes and belongings. And virtually everyone is worried about the impact of the next storm. The long-term impacts on our community could be severe.

Given these circumstances, prioritizing essential infrastructure over a new stadium is not only reasonable but necessary. St. Petersburg has identified more than \$5 billion in capital improvements needed to the sewer and stormwater systems, and more than \$1 billion in seawall repairs. The idea that funding a stadium will bring significant community benefits lacks concrete evidence, especially compared to the clear and pressing need for hurricane preparedness and infrastructure improvements. Investing in these areas is essential for the safety and well-being of St. Pete’s residents.

Additionally, your claim that “Pinellas can’t be trusted” if the stadium deal falls through is unfounded. The process of finalizing such deals includes due diligence and ensuring that all conditions, including financing, are satisfactorily met. This is a fundamental aspect of responsible governance and financial management.

In conclusion, while the notion of a new stadium might seem appealing, the current situation demands a reevaluation of priorities. The safety, welfare, and resilience of our community must come first. I urge the Tampa Bay Times to consider the broader context and the critical needs of our residents when discussing this issue.

Thank you for your attention.

Your Street Address	4830 Osprey Dr
City/Unincorporated County	St Petersburg
Zip Code	33711
Your Email Address	davidorb@eckerd.edu

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of safiorenzo74 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 11:17 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays Stadium. Vote NO please from Sherry Fiorenzo #30517690
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 Sherry Fiorenzo

Subject Rays Stadium. Vote NO please

Message Please turn this deal down. Use the tax money to fund our beautiful beaches and other things that tourists actually come to pinellas county for. Now that the rays moved to Hillsborough county. They get the taxes and revenue generated from the Rays? While Pinellas just sits over here giving them our money. This seems like a stab in the back. Please vote NO on the bonds deal. It was a bad deal to begin with. Let them find their own business. Why are we giving millionaires our money?

Your Street Address 459 corvette dr

City/Unincorporated County Largo

Zip Code 33771

Your Email Address safiorenzo74@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of mking99 at tampabay.rr.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 7:24 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Bond issues for Tropicana Field from Mike King #30516640

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 Mike King

Subject Bond issues for Tropicana Field

Message I am emailing to request you to vote against the bonds for the Rays deal. The Rays didn't even have the courtesy to let you know about all the revenue the tourist tax fund could lose with the Rays now going across the bay to play in Tampa. Why are we subsidizing millionaires with our taxpayer money? Now we are subsidizing them with Pinellas money... to play in Tampa? Please vote no. Your constituents do not want this deal.

Your Street Address 210 - Cleveland Avenue

City/Unincorporated County Largo

Zip Code 33770

Your Email Address mking99@tampabay.rr.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of jclisenby at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 6:24 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays Vote from Justin Lisenby #30516535

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 Justin Lisenby

Subject Rays Vote

Message
I am emailing to request you to vote against the bonds for the Rays deal. The Rays didn't even have the courtesy to let you know about all the revenue the tourist tax fund could lose with the Rays now going across the bay to play in Tampa. Why are we subsidizing millionaires with our taxpayer money? Now we are subsidizing them with Pinellas money... to play in Tampa? This does nothing for Pinellas County but put us in worse financial shape in the future. Please vote no on this deal.

Your Street Address 7024 123th Ter

City/Unincorporated County Largo

Zip Code 33773

Your Email Address jclisenby@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of adenlynnbarnes at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 6:14 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Vote Against the Bonds for the Rays Deal from Aden Barnes #30516526

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
- County Administrator

Your Name Aden Barnes

Subject Vote Against the Bonds for the Rays Deal

Message Hello,

I am emailing to request you to vote against the bonds for the Rays deal. The Rays didn't even have the courtesy to let you know about all the revenue the tourist tax fund could lose with the Rays now going across the bay to play in Tampa. Why are we subsidizing millionaires with our taxpayer money? Now we are subsidizing them with Pinellas money... to play in Tampa?

Please vote no. Your constituents do not want this deal.

Aden Barnes

Your Street Address 10240 127 Ave

City/Unincorporated County Largo

Zip Code

33773

Your Email Address

adenlynnbarnes@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: Robert Bergin <rob.bergin@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 3:17 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Stadium deal

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Please vote a resounding NO on the stadium deal as it currently exists. I'm okay with making a deal after SIGNIFICANT modifications are delineated and forwarded to the taxpayers of ST. Petersburg and Pinellas County. I will not vote in the future for any council member who supports the current deal.
Sent from my iPad

Eres, Christian L

From: S Engel Phillips <sengelphillips@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:56 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Rays

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Particularly in the devastation of the recent hurricanes and damage to Tropicana Field, I am totally opposed to the financial arrangements with the Rays for development of the Gas Plant project.

Taxpayers are being taken for a ride by some New York millionaires, the league, and a small minority of Pinellas residents who actually benefit from and enjoy going to games.

Not a dime of County money should go into the project.#

Stephen E. Phillips
200 4th. Ave S #200
St.Petersburg

Eres, Christian L

From: Karyn Mueller <karynmueller@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 8:20 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Vote No on using hotel taxes for the Rays Stadium
Attachments: Tourism percentages.jpg; Visit SPC CW Study Page 001.jpg

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear Commissioner Dave Eggers,

Thank you for voting NO on using hotel taxes for the Rays stadium subsidy. I appreciate your leadership and integrity. Thank you for being a voice of reason and I'm hoping you will once again vote NO on approving the bonds for the Rays stadium.

As you know, taxpayers like myself have been working tirelessly for over a year to try to advocate for a better deal and a better use of the County hotel taxes.

Hotel taxes should fund the most important tourism priorities of the County, including our local businesses that provide the services and products that bring visitors to spend sales tax and hotel tax.

We should not be diverting these funds to a baseball stadium after the Visit St. Pete/Clearwater Visitor Profile & Economic Impact Study shows that attending sporting events is the least popular activity (3%). Other activities are much more popular such as dining in restaurants (68%), visiting the beaches (44%), visiting museums and shopping (42%), and swimming (21%).

During the October 29th meeting, I greatly appreciated that you highlighted all the urgent needs of Pinellas County to prioritize getting our County's tourism facilities back up and running ASAP!

The devastation from the two recent hurricanes makes it more obvious than ever that we need to invest in our local restaurants, shops, hotels and other local businesses so that they can provide their services and products to visitors and tourists. This is a large segment of our economy and we have to support our tourism businesses because many of us rely on income from these businesses as well as jobs.

Just like you said in the November 5th meeting, there are clearly much higher priorities for the expenditure of the hotel tax funds. We need to invest the Tourism Development and Hotel Taxes back into supporting the businesses and beaches that provide the activities that tourists spend money on!

Obligating future Tourism Development dollars to finance the Rays stadium will not only strain our budget but also shift focus away from rebuilding and revitalizing our community. Thank you for

continuing to talk about the enormous price tag of the Rays Hines deal and how it is so unbalanced.

As you stated, our infrastructure has suffered extensive damage and many residents are grappling with the effects of flooding. Our local businesses are reeling from costly damage, closed storefronts and reduced tourism and spending.

Our group of concerned taxpayers includes residents from all walks of life, political affiliations, income levels, all age groups, and from native Floridians, transplants and snowbirds. All of us are highly opposed to this irresponsible use of hotel taxes.

I appreciate your leadership and integrity! Thank you for advocating for responsible spending of the TDC funds and vote against using hotel taxes for the Rays stadium.

Sincerely,

Karyn Mueller, Professional Engineer and Real Estate Broker
Owner Energy Consulting Engineering and Real Estate
Member Historic Gas Plant Community Benefits Advisory Council

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of mmcook141 at gmail.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 2:15 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Bonds for Rays Stadium from Michael Cook #30508408

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Direction of Inquiry	Commissioner Dave Eggers - District 4
Your Name	Michael Cook
Subject	Bonds for Rays Stadium
Message	Vote against this boondoggle. Show your fiscal responsibility.
Your Street Address	3383 Misty Pond Ct
City/Unincorporated County	Pinellas County
Zip Code	34688
Your Email Address	mmcook141@gmail.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: victoria fleming <victoriavfbww@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 12:47 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Nowickivince@vincenowicki.com; chris@schererforpinellas.com
Subject: NO Tropicana Field Renovations

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Dear County Commissioners,
Please vote No on approving bonds for the stadium on Nov. 19. You are the only voices of reason at this point. Please!!!!
Best regards,
Victoria
brscott@pinellas.gov (727) 464-3360 Tel deggers@pinellas.gov (727) 464-3276 Tel clatvala@pinellas.gov (727) 464-3278
Tel kpeters@pinellas.gov (727) 464-3568 Tel rflowers@pinellas.gov (727) 464-3614 Tel Vince Nowicki
vince@vincenowicki.com Chris Scherer chris@schererforpinellas.com

twostoriesinc
727 644 1061
victoriafleming

Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@fs30.formsite.com on behalf of thenoas at icloud.com
<noreply@fs30.formsite.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 10:49 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Contact Form: Rays New Stadium from Jeff Noa #30502157

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 Jeff Noa

Subject Rays New Stadium

Message Good morning - Had a couple of comments on the pledge of tourism tax funds to help fund the Rays new stadium:

1) Is there bond insurance in the event of a future direct hit by a major hurricane and the flow of tourism funds is impacted for a few years as the beaches/hotels rebuild? Certainly don't want to add that to our property taxes in that unfortunate event.

2)The Tampa Bay Times earlier this year noted and I'm subject to correction that as part of the financing deal, the Board/County would get a free skybox for the Rays games? Hopefully, that is not the case.

3) All in all, I'm not in favor of funding for the Rays. We have more pressing issues.

Your Street Address 790 Maple Ridge Rd

City/Unincorporated County Palm Harbor

Zip Code

34683

Your Email Address

thenoas@icloud.com

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Eres, Christian L

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.gov
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 4:04 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Live Form

Topic Tropicana Field

BCC Agenda Date

Your Stand on the Issue Oppose

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

Citizen Name Kristina Thyrrre

Address 175 1st st s 3404
St petersburg, Fl 33701

Phone +17276426524

Email Kthyrrre@gmail.com

Eres, Christian L

From: Barbara Pierce <barbara.pierce@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:31 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Subject: Please vote NO on upcoming stadium bond issue

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Mr. Deggers:

As a St. Pete resident and homeowner, I strongly urge you to vote no on the commission's upcoming vote regarding the sale of bonds for a new baseball stadium.

As numerous economic studies conducted in cities around the nation have clearly demonstrated, such deals are boondoggles – basically corporate welfare that delivers nothing like the unenforceable promises made to the communities pressured into accepting them or—horrors—the teams may leave. Meanwhile, they are disruptive, hugely expensive, and do nothing to address the real and pressing issues faced by our region – issues that were highlighted in boldface by the two recent hurricanes that wreaked such havoc on our infrastructure and the homes and livelihoods of thousands of our neighbors.

It looked to me and many others like the deal was pushed through with virtually no opportunity for public input. And, if we're being honest, the proposed location in downtown St. Pete, a small city center already bursting at the seams with new overdevelopment, is anything but convenient for fans throughout Pinellas County and Tampa Bay– it should be much more central and broadly accessible. It is not the St. Pete Rays, after all.

If (as I hope) the votes of you and your fellow members against allocating these funds carry the day and derail the project, so be it. Back to the drawing board with a stronger emphasis on true priorities, and the Rays can reach into their own deep pockets to set up elsewhere in the region or try their luck somewhere else.

Thank you,

Barbara Pierce

Eres, Christian L

From: Christina Frederick <crecascino@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 2:00 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; kpeters@pinellas.gov; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Chris Scherer –; vince@vincenowicki.com
Subject: Vote no on bond sales for a new stadium

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Per the comments of St. Pete residents on <https://homerunsmatter.com/citizen-letters/>, I am strongly encouraging all of you to **vote no** to sponsor the sale of bonds for new stadium. We have many more pressing needs than a stadium; needs that more directly impact Pinellas county residents' lives across the entire county than this project. The stadium is a bad deal for everyone.

I say this as a Rays fan who loves baseball, but this is not the time nor the place for the stadium.

Christina Frederick
Gulfport Resident

Eres, Christian L

From: Amy Petrucelli <a.j.petro@att.net>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 1:26 PM
To: Scott, Brian; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; kpeters@pinellas.gov; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; chris@schererforpinellas.com; vince@vincenmowicki.com
Subject: Important Vote coming up

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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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. 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 of the citizens of Pinellas County. We are counting on you to stand up for all of the residents of the county and do the right thing.

Two hurricanes have changed everything – we need to put the money into our county.

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

thank you
Amy Petrucelli
St Petersburg, FL

Eres, Christian L

From: Hunter Hamberlin <Hunter@protectingtaxpayers.org>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:25 AM
To: Long, Janet C; Scott, Brian; Justice, Charlie; Eggers, Dave; Latvala, Christopher; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene
Cc: Burton, Barry
Subject: TPA Urges a No Vote on Item 24-1955A - Tampa Bay Rays New Stadium in St. Pete

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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Dear Chairwoman Peters, Vice Chairman Scott, and the Members of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners:

My name is Hunter Hamberlin. I am State Policy Manager for the Taxpayers Protection Alliance (TPA). TPA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization that works on behalf of taxpayers and consumers nationwide.

I am reaching out today to insist that you all **vote against** the bond that will allow the funding and construction of the new Tampa Rays Stadium. In short, investing public funds in infrastructure for a privately-owned sports team is not in the best interests of taxpayers in the area. Furthermore, taxpayer funds should be prioritized to fix the recent destruction by the hurricanes.

See below for some of our press releases and research on the issue:

June 15, 2023: [Stadium Subsidies are the New York Mets of Public Policy](#)

June 11, 2024: [TPA Urges St. Petersburg City Council to Reject Taxpayer Funding for Tampa Bay Rays Stadium](#)

July 19, 2024: [Taxpayer Watchdog Slams St. Petersburg's Irresponsible Approval of Stadium Subsidies](#)

There is a current trend with wealthy individuals and companies throughout the nation: socialize economic development projects but privatize profits. All major league sports are guilty of reaching into the pockets of taxpayers for the sake of funding their stadium pet projects. However, citizens rarely see the benefits of these large-scale projects, and positive economic impact for these projects are **questionable at best**.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions, and I thank you all for your time!

All the best,

Hunter

Hunter C. Hamberlin
State Policy Manager
Taxpayers Protection Alliance
Cell: (770) 363-6076