

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE COUNTYWIDE RULES; ADDING THE RESIDENTIAL RURAL CATEGORY; CLARIFYING THE PROCESS FOR AMENDING THE COUNTYWIDE PLAN MAP WHEN NO LOCAL FLUM AMENDMENT IS NEEDED; UPDATING SECTION NUMBERS, REFERENCES AND TERMINOLOGY FOR INTERNAL CONSISTENCY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, acting pursuant to its countywide planning authority, has repealed the former Countywide Comprehensive Plan and replaced it by adoption of Ordinance No. 15-30 on August 7, 2015, which has been subsequently amended; and

WHEREAS, as part of Ordinance 15-30, the Board adopted the Countywide Plan Strategies, Countywide Plan Map, and the Countywide Rules, which collectively comprise the Countywide Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Pinellas Planning Council is operating under the fictitious name of Forward Pinellas; and

WHEREAS, the Pinellas Planning Council, pursuant to Section 6(7)(b), Chapter 2012-245, Laws of Florida, is authorized to develop rules, standards, policies, and objectives that will implement the Countywide Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Pinellas Planning Council pursuant to Section 10(3)(a), Chapter 2012-245, Laws of Florida, is authorized to initiate amendment to a rule or strategy of the Countywide Plan, as determined necessary by the Council to establish effective countywide planning; and

WHEREAS, the Countywide Plan provides for the coordination of land use and transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Pinellas Planning Council amended the Countywide Rules to eliminate multiple Countywide Plan Map categories, including the Residential Rural category; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, in its role as the local government for unincorporated Pinellas County, has requested that the Residential

Rural category be readopted into the Countywide Rules to protect the character of rural low-density unincorporated areas; and

WHEREAS, Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, has determined that readopting the Residential Rural category is necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Countywide Rules set forth a process for local government requests to amend the Countywide Plan Map; and

WHEREAS, Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, recommends revisions to the Countywide Plan Map amendment process as set forth in Exhibit A to allow the Residential Rural category to be designated on the Countywide Plan Map when no local Future Land Use Map amendment is needed; and

WHEREAS, the requisite procedures concerning notice and public hearing for amendment of the Countywide Rules have been met.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. The portions of Article 2, Countywide Plan Map Categories; Article 4, Plan Criteria and Standards; Article 5; Optional Provisions; and Article 6, Countywide Plan Map Amendment; are hereby amended as set forth in Exhibit "A". All other portions of the Countywide Rules not included in this ordinance are preserved and remain as previously set forth.

SECTION 2. Severability. It is declared to be the intent of the Board of County Commissioners that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not be construed as to render invalid or unconstitutional the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. Filing of Ordinance; Effective Date. Pursuant to Section 125.66, Florida Statutes, a certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the Department of State by the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within ten (10) days after enactment by the Board of County Commissioners. This Ordinance shall become effective upon filing with the Department of State.