

**From:** [Karen O'Connor](#)  
**To:** [Carpenter, Katherine](#); [Jeffery Kronschnabl](#)  
**Subject:** BCC Meeting July 13th  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 14, 2021 11:12:08 AM  
**Attachments:** [Line Item 38 -Comments KO.docx](#)

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Good morning Katherine,

I was advised to contact you regarding commenting on line item 38 from the BCC's meeting last evening. I intended to participate in commenting on line# 38, which was the proposal for ordinances amending the countywide rules (first public hearing).

I filed the blue card when I arrived at the Magnolia room, along with the participation form online prior to the meeting.

My comments were due to a research paper and presentation for my class in Public Policy, and as you know, the BCC voted "on hold" for this item for another month or so. I waited until item 43 to be called and talked in front of them.

I asked the lady in the front (I think she said she was from communications) and she mentioned that the item was done and she was unable to get me to talk in front of them.

Can you please attach my script to line item 38 as a public comment?

Please let me know if this is feasible or not.

thank you

Karen O'Connor  
Clearwater Fl

Good afternoon Commissioners:

My name is Karen O'Connor, and I am currently working in the Public Policy and Administration Bachelor's program at SPC, graduating in May 2022. I was assigned to talk at this meeting to earn full credits on my assignment for the Public Policy Leadership Class.

As older adults age, they face declining incomes, increased medical cost, and housing that may not be designed to meet their needs. Quality affordable housing bonuses may promote better mental and physical health, improving independence for seniors who may need incentives to expand their quality of life. According to the Pinellas Community Foundations, Pinellas County has the second largest population of 85+ Y/O adults in Florida. An even though Florida sits at the national average with a housing index of 100.50; it means that is no cheaper to move in this area than South Florida, specially on a humble retirement budget. Approving the amendment will not only support their economic situation, but it will also help them to get safe, decent and stable housing with adequate facilities that can provide the help they need. Our community, along with elected officials and policymakers, should be able to promote healthy aging and have an optimal quality of life in Pinellas County.

Thank you for your time and patience.