



# Employees' Advisory Council



*to continually improve the Pinellas County classified employees' quality of work life*

October 18, 2018

Honorable Members of the Pinellas County Commission;

The Employees' Advisory Council (EAC) wishes to express support for establishing a Benefits Advisory Committee.

The EAC, in representing the classified employees of Pinellas County, is aware that the cost of benefits to the employees as well as Pinellas County's Budget is vast. An agreement with the Appointing Authorities, as discussed during the meeting held on October 15, 2018, concluded a Benefits Advisory Committee should be formed. It is furthermore agreed this is a large cost that affects approximately 3,000 employees and the appointing authorities' budget. As such these stakeholders should have the authority to make, recommend or deny any changes that pertains to health care benefits.

To provide awareness of the employee's needs, protect against loss, ensure the benefits are competitive with other local governments and that the benefit plans meet the needs of employees is in the best interest of all to establish this committee. In researching this particular issue, the EAC has found that it is very common for local government entities to have such committees. In closing, the EAC supports the Board establishing the Benefits Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Arispe

Employee Advisory Council