

## Young, Bernie C

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**From:** Albert Valin <valin@tampabay.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 2:22 PM  
**To:** Justice, Charlie; Long, Janet C; Seel, Karen; Welch, Kenneth; Gerard, Pat  
**Cc:** Eggers, Dave; Peters, Kathleen  
**Subject:** Feedback on Proposed Ordinance to Create New "Vessel Exclusion Zones" from a concerned Pinellas resident

**CAUTION:**

This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. Do Not Click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

To All,

I am appalled to learn of your efforts to pass this ordinance during the current pandemic. I watch the local news every day, and there has been NO coverage on the local news for anything other than Covid-19 updates. This issue, which I consider a major topic for the County and my lifestyle is being slid through via Zoom meetings with no interactive discussion with the public.

The time I have spent out at Bunces Pass with friends and family is precious to me, and with this ordinance, the chance to gather in that way will be virtually eliminated. In the time that I have spent out there, what I see are cooperative and concerted efforts at getting boats anchored near each other safely. I have seen only a few instances where inexperienced boaters have struggled just a bit, but in each circumstance, those already anchored have helped everyone around them to land safely.

The thought that these areas out off of Fort De Soto need to be protected for swimmers makes no sense. As if there are NOT enough swimming areas in Pinellas County, these areas are not even easily accessible from the shore of Ft. De Soto beach. There are channels that surround the sandbar on all sides that would merit a swimmer having to negotiate questionable water to even get out there to swim. Essentially, it is best to reach the sandbar safely by boat --- and you are voting to take that possibility off of the table.

If nothing else, this topic needs to be suspended until the public may be able to meet in large groups for immediate face-to-face interaction and feedback. Otherwise, your passing of this ordinance during the pandemic is going to create a LARGE backlash, and you are all going to have to revisit the issue once a more visible light is shown to the public on what you have done.

Please think before you act behind a pixelated Zoom screen.....

ALBERT VALIN  
25-year proud Pinellas resident

## Young, Bernie C

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**From:** info@islandferry.biz  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 12:13 PM  
**To:** Long, Janet C; Gerard, Pat; Justice, Charlie; Eggers, Dave; Seel, Karen; Peters, Kathleen; Welch, Kenneth  
**Subject:** Outback Key Vessel Exclusion Zone  
**Attachments:** Pinellas County Commissioners.pdf

**CAUTION:**

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Esteemed Commissioners, please see attached.

## Young, Bernie C

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**From:** Kathleen Hess <khess@huntresco.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 27, 2020 3:27 PM  
**To:** Justice, Charlie; Long, Janet C; Seel, Karen; Welch, Kenneth; Gerard, Pat  
**Cc:** Eggers, Dave; Peters, Kathleen  
**Subject:** Feedback on Proposed Ordinance to Create New "Vessel Exclusion Zones" from a concerned Pinellas resident

**Importance:** High

**CAUTION:**

This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. **Do Not Click** on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Commissioners:

I was absolutely SHOCKED today to learn of BOCC's recent decision to restrict boating access to Bunces Pass and the Island/Sand Bar via Facebook !! This type of infringement on the recreational rights of taxpayers MUST be discussed publicly and transparently !!! We have not heard a word of this action – and a printed notice in the local newspaper should no longer be considered achieving "public notice". Newspapers are no longer a primary source of information – and this age old method of "informing" the public should also be reconsidered. Not to mention we are in a national economic and health crisis – and people are busy trying to figure out how to put food on the table, keep their businesses afloat, and secure unemployment – not reading the newspaper 😞

The Island at Bunces Pass is a natural, beautiful and evolving Pinellas County amenity that should be protected for recreational boating, paddle boarding, kayaking, etc. Swimmers have pools and designated beaches throughout the County. There are very limited areas whereby boating families can anchor up to the shoreline, have picnics, play games, etc. Our family visits this area almost every weekend – weather permitting. We have taken friends and relatives from across the County and overseas – and they are in awe every time we introduce them to this location. The boating community looks out for one another, picks up after themselves at the sandbar, and are very cognizant of all of the other users enjoying the water.

PLEASE reconsider this recent action at tomorrow's meeting – and give the public a chance to be heard on this subject !

Thank you,  
Kathy  
Feather Sound Resident

**Kathleen J. Hess** | Vice President of Construction| Hunt Real Estate Services, Inc.

5601 Mariner Street, Ste 100 | Tampa FL 33609 | ☎ 727 458 4055 | 📠 813 289 4800 | ✉ [khess@huntresco.com](mailto:khess@huntresco.com)