



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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File #: 16-636A, Version: 1

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### **Subject:**

Ordinance amending Chapter 110 (Article VI) of the County Code involving special assessments for improvements to storm sewers and streets, including bike paths and sidewalks, by changing the repayment process from an assessment lien method of collection to the uniform method of non-ad valorem assessment collection (companion to item no. 3).

### **Recommended Action:**

Conduct a public hearing and adopt an ordinance to modify the repayment process for storm sewer and street improvement special assessments, by changing from an assessment lien method of collection to the uniform method of non-ad valorem assessment collection.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

4.4 Invest in infrastructure to meet current and future needs

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

5.3 Ensure effective and efficient delivery of county services and support

5.4 Strive to exceed customer expectations

### **Summary:**

On April 12, 2016, the Board of County Commissioners authorized the advertisement of a public hearing to consider amending Chapter 110 (Article VI) of the County Code to modify the repayment process for storm sewer and street improvement special assessments. This change will update the lien repayment process from an assessment lien method to the uniform method of non-ad valorem assessment collection.

### **Background Information:**

The current assessment method relies on the payment of assessments through a lien process rather than the tax roll and has proven to be ill-suited for the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office to track, bill, and collect the assessments. The implementation of the uniform method of collection would streamline the process by creating a non-ad valorem assessment that is billed and collected by the Tax Collector's Office with the ad valorem taxes.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

No assessment projects are included in the FY16 budget. While there is no net fiscal impact expected from the change to the Uniform Method of Collection, efficiencies will be gained by streamlining this process and alleviating the staff time currently spent tracking, billing, and collecting outstanding assessments.

### **Staff Member Responsible:**

Ken Jacobs, Transportation Division Manager, Public Works

**Partners:**

Citizens residing in the unincorporated portions of the County  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Tax Collector

**Attachments:**

Proposed Ordinance  
Proposed Ordinance (strikethrough version)