



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 18-1292A, **Version:** 1

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### **Subject:**

Interlocal Agreement related to the operation and funding of the Pinellas Public Library Cooperative, Inc.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Pinellas Public Library Cooperative, Inc. (PPLC) and the participating municipalities, with execution of the Agreement by the Chairman on behalf of the Palm Harbor Community Services Agency, Inc. and the East Lake Community Library.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

4.6 Support a vibrant community with recreation, arts, and culture to attract residents and visitors

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:**

The purpose of this Interlocal Agreement is to establish cooperative library services among member libraries who are parties to the agreement and establish a formula for distribution of funds among member libraries for the provision of library services to unincorporated residents of Pinellas County and residents of municipalities that elect to pay for such services. The current Interlocal Agreement has been in place since October 1, 2013, and expires on September 30, 2018. The term of the new Agreement is five (5) years, ending September 30, 2023. The Agreement may be renewed for an additional five (5) years, to September 30, 2028.

### **Background Information:**

PPLC's mission is to facilitate a common library experience across the county while preserving the unique attributes of individual libraries. The development of the new Interlocal Agreement has been underway for over two years. The proposed Interlocal Agreement includes recommendations from the PPLC Board, as well as staff from member libraries. Key revisions to the Interlocal include the following:

- (a) Removal of ex-officio member;
- (b) Addition of electronic formats to circulated materials that are freely available to all cardholders of a specific library, regardless of cardholder's address;
- (c) Three appointments to the Board shall be appointed by the Board of County

Commissioners upon the recommendation of the County Administrator;

- (d) Modified funding formula to allow for 100% of member library expenditures on library materials (in non-fixed capital), while removing the previous \$25,000 maximum allowable for non-fixed capital. This revision aligns with State Aid funding formula allowances.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The Interlocal Agreement provides for a funding formula based upon local support by member libraries and circulation among non-resident (residents from unincorporated Pinellas County and other member libraries). The County imposes a levy of 0.5000 mills (maximum allowable) within the unincorporated area, less Palm Harbor and East Lake, to support access to library services from member libraries for unincorporated residents and to enhance services within the County as a whole. Palm Harbor and East Lake are subject to separate levies for library services. PPLC is also eligible for and receives state aid for libraries grant funding to support countywide programs such as the Talking Book Library and Deaf Literacy Center.

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Brian Lowack, Intergovernmental Liaison, Office of the County Administrator

**Partners:**

City of Clearwater  
City of Dunedin  
City of Gulfport  
City of Largo  
City of Madeira Beach  
City of Oldsmar  
City of Pinellas Park  
Town of North Redington Beach  
Town of Redington Beach  
Town of Redington Shores  
City of Safety Harbor  
City of St. Pete Beach  
City of St. Petersburg  
City of Seminole  
City of Tarpon Springs  
City of Treasure Island  
Palm Harbor Community Services Agency  
East Lake Community Library

**Attachments:**

Interlocal Agreement