



**PLANNERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)
MEETING AGENDA**

April 5, 2021 – 1:30 p.m.

Magnolia Room at Florida Botanical Gardens
12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo

THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2. **[APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 1, 2021](#)**
- 3. **REVIEW OF FORWARD PINELLAS AGENDA FOR April 14, 2021**

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- A. [CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments](#)

4. **PLANNING TOPICS OF INTEREST**

- A. [Forward Pinellas Equity Assessment](#) (Angela Ryan)
- B. [Legislative Update](#) (Linda Fisher)
- C. [Residential Equivalency Standards Update](#) (Nousheen Rahman)
- D. [Gateway/Mid-County Working Group](#) (Christina Mendoza)
- E. [Orientation Guide for New PAC Members](#) (Austin Britt)

5. **OTHER PAC BUSINESS/PAC DISCUSSION AND UPCOMING AGENDA**

- A. [Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update](#) (Information by Rodney Chatman)

6. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

April 13 th	Sun Coast Book Club
May 21 st	2021 Florida Legislative Wrap Up – 1000 Friends of Florida – 1.5 CM

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

NEXT PAC MEETING – MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the Office of Human Rights, 400 South Fort Harrison Avenue, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33756; [(727) 464-4062 (V/TDD)] at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Appeals: Certain public meetings result in actions taken by the public board, commission or agency that may be appealed; in such case persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at a public meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Planners Advisory Committee – April 5, 2021



2. Approval of Minutes – March 1, 2021

SUMMARY

The Summary Agenda Action Sheet for the March 1, 2021 PAC meeting is attached for committee review and approval.

ATTACHMENT(S): PAC Summary Agenda Action Sheet for the March 1, 2021 meeting

ACTION: PAC to approve the Summary Agenda Action Sheet from the March 1, 2021 meeting.

PAC AGENDA – SUMMARY AGENDA ACTION SHEET
DATE: MARCH 1, 2021

ITEM	ACTION TAKEN	VOTE
<p>1. <u>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL</u></p>	<p>The PAC held its March 1, 2021 meeting in the Magnolia Room at the Florida Botanical Gardens; 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.</p> <p>The Chair, Britton Wilson, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and the members introduced themselves.</p> <p>Committee members in attendance included Britton Wilson, Kyle Brotherton, Derek Reeves, Corey Gray, Rick Perez (late arrival at 1:33 p.m.), Jan Norsoph, Frances Leong-Sharp, Marshall Touchton, Brandon Henry, Pat McNeese, Wesley Wright, Jensen Hackett, Heather Sobush and Tatiana Childress.</p> <p>Forward Pinellas staff included Rodney Chatman, Linda Fisher, Nousheen Rahman, Jared Austin, Sarah Caper, Christina Mendoza, Austin Britt, and Tina Jablon.</p> <p>Others in attendance were Derek Kilborn and Ann Vickstrom from the City of St. Petersburg, Brian Aungst, Jr., Eric Sullivan from Sports Facilities Companies, Todd Pressman, and Robert Pergolizzi from Gulf Coast Consulting.</p>	
<p>2. <u>MINUTES OF REGULAR PAC MEETING OF FEBRUARY 1, 2021</u></p>	<p>Motion: Jan Norsoph Second: Frances Leong-Sharp</p> <p>Note: Rick Perez had not arrived prior to this vote being taken</p>	13-0
<p>3. <u>REVIEW OF FORWARD PINELLAS AGENDA FOR MARCH 10, 2021 MEETING</u> <u>PUBLIC HEARINGS</u> A. CW 21-02 – City of Tarpon Springs</p>	<p>Motion: Kyle Brotherton Second: Derek Reeves</p>	14-0
<p>B. CW 21-05 – City of Clearwater</p>	<p>Motion: Jan Norsoph Second: Corey Gray</p>	14-0

C. CW 21-06 – City of St. Petersburg

Nousheen Rahman reviewed the proposed land use amendment with the PAC members and cited the rationale for staff's recommendation of denial. Specifically, that the proposed use is inconsistent with the characteristics of the Target Employment Center category and reduces the amount of Industrial/Employment designated land without meeting the balancing criteria. She highlighted two past cases where the board approved an amendment to another category but noted that no two cases are entirely similar and must be individually evaluated against the Rules and balancing criteria.

Derek Kilborn, City of St. Petersburg staff, gave a presentation on the proposed amendment from the City's perspective and answered a variety of questions from the PAC members about employment opportunities, impacts to local schools, specifics about the workforce housing component of the project, and the Development Agreement.

There was lengthy discussion surrounding the employment opportunities that could be created on the site compared to the proposed use. Some of the PAC members also focused the conversation around the proposed workforce housing units to be developed on the site. There is a Development Agreement in place to ensure 30% of the residential component will be dedicated to workforce housing.

It was noted that the current and proposed land use categories are relatively similar in terms of the allowed uses at the local level. Most would still be permitted, and a few would be added. It was also noted that workforce housing was a key balancing factor for the City of St. Petersburg staff recommending approval of the proposed amendment.

Robert Pergolizzi, Gulf Coast Consulting, and Eric Sullivan, Sports Facilities Companies, spoke in favor of the proposed amendment and answered some of the questions posed by the PAC. They outlined the employment opportunities that would result from the sports complex and gave specifics about the workforce housing that would be created.

Mr. Sullivan stated that his company was hired by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners and the Tourist Development Council, through a competitive bid process, to find a location for a facility of this kind. He asserted that this type of sports tourism facility would generate an estimated \$16M in direct local revenues.

Mr. Pergolizzi noted that two of the three neighborhood associations support the project. He also cited the Countywide Rules and advised that the definition of "target employment" states it "includes, but is not limited to" the suggested uses. He suggested that this is a very unique and specific type of use that would not have been called out precisely in the Rules.

Mr. Sullivan defined more specifically the activities that would happen at the site weekly as opposed to when special events are being held. He broke down the job creation numbers more precisely as follows: approximately 100 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs) would be created over the long term, of that, 20-30% would be full time on-site year-round, the others would be a combination of part-time and/or seasonal employees.

Ultimately, Jan Norsoph moved approval, conditional on a guarantee that the workforce housing would be included in the project. The motion was seconded by Pat McNeese and carried unanimously (vote: 14-0).

Brian Aungst, Jr. stated he believes the developer would be agreeable to the condition for the workforce housing and asserted it is an integral part of the project as they are concerned.

D. CW 21-07 – Pinellas County	Motion: Derek Reeves Second: Frances Leong-Sharp	14-0
<u>REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS</u> E. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments	Rodney Chatman updated the PAC members on the staff reviewed Tier I Map Amendments and recent actions taken by the CPA. No action required; informational item only.	
4. <u>PLANNING TOPICS OF INTEREST</u> A. Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan	Sarah Caper, Forward Pinellas staff, provided some historical context leading to the development of the Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan, the Vision Zero effort for Forward Pinellas. She highlighted key information from the Action Plan and early implementation steps. A motion was made by Rick Perez to recommend that the Forward Pinellas Board commit to zero deaths and serious injuries by 2045 and support the Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan. The motion was seconded by Jan Norsoph and carried unanimously.	14-0
B. Residential Equivalent Use Standards	<p>Nousheen Rahman advised the PAC members that Forward Pinellas has received a privately initiated request to amend the Countywide Rules regarding the Residential Equivalent Use Standards to increase the number of permitted beds per dwelling unit from three to five. At the direction of the Forward Pinellas Board, staff is considering the request and seeking input from the PAC in doing so. A summary of the Residential Equivalency Standards of neighboring/comparable counties was provided. The PAC members were then asked to complete and submit a survey that sought to determine the need for such an amendment and if the local government planners would amend their regulations if an amendment to the Rules was approved. This item will continue to be evaluated by Forward Pinellas staff and brought back to the PAC for further consideration prior to any action of the Forward Pinellas Board.</p> <p>Todd Pressman addressed the PAC citing that the Residential Equivalency Use Standards of all the neighboring counties are less restrictive than those in Pinellas County. He asked for a date certain for this item to be brought back to the committee but was advised by the chair that agendas</p>	

	are set at the discretion of Forward Pinellas.	
C. Multi-jurisdictional Review of Gateway Projects	<p>Christina Mendoza provided some historical context on the development of the Gateway Area Master Plan and gave an overview of the general plan recommendations. She advised that the project is now in the implementation phase and an MOU between the involved local jurisdictions is in place. She highlighted that one identified gap in the implementation process is proposed projects that fall into multiple jurisdictions and gave an example of such a project. Forward Pinellas staff solicited input from the PAC members on the best way to expeditiously move such projects forward so as not to impede implementation of the Plan and suggested the formation of an informal subcommittee of the PAC. The subcommittee would be tasked to take up this topic and potential coordination of these projects. The representatives from Largo, Pinellas Park, St. Petersburg, and Pinellas County all indicated agreement to form a subcommittee for this purpose. Rick Perez, City of Largo, stressed the importance of developing specific guidelines, processes, and conflict resolution protocols. Derek Reeves, City of Pinellas Park suggested including PSTA in the subcommittee as well. Jan Norsoph made a motion to create a subcommittee of the PAC with representatives from the member jurisdictions. The motion was seconded by Marshall Touchton and carried unanimously.</p> <p>Note: Pat McNeese had departed the meeting prior to the vote for this item.</p>	13-0

<p>D. Legislative Update</p>	<p>Linda Fisher alerted the PAC members that the Florida Legislative Session begins on March 2nd and many bills are already making their way through committees. She highlighted a few bills of concern with potential impacts to Pinellas County. Some of the proposed bills could prohibit local building design regulations, prohibit the use of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFBs), preempt local regulation of vacation rentals, abolish regional planning councils, abolish the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) and allow solar facilities on agricultural lands. Forward Pinellas anticipates writing letters of opposition regarding some of the proposed legislation and continues to monitor the progress of the bills. Legislative updates will be ongoing throughout the session and reported regularly to the PAC members each month.</p>	
<p>5. <u>OTHER PAC BUSINESS/PAC DISCUSSION AND UPCOMING AGENDA</u> A. Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update (Information)</p>	<p>Rodney Chatman advised that there were no updates to be given on the SPOTlight Emphasis Areas.</p>	
<p>6. <u>UPCOMING EVENTS</u></p>	<p>PAC members received an informational flyer about Bike Your City 2021 and other upcoming events were highlighted by the chair.</p>	
<p>7. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u></p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.</p>	

Respectfully Submitted,

PAC Chairman

Date

Planners Advisory Committee – April 5, 2021

3A. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments



SUMMARY

This information is presented in order to better, and more systematically, apprise the Forward Pinellas Board of final action(s) by the Board of County Commissioners, in their role as the Countywide Planning Authority (CPA) on matters that have been previously considered. This summary also includes the Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments that have been administratively reviewed by Forward Pinellas staff.

CPA Actions March 2021:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Board of County Commissioners, acting according to its Countywide Planning Authority, held public hearings on March 9, 2021 to consider the following amendments to the Countywide Plan Map:

- CW 21-04, a City of Largo case located at 6021 142nd Avenue North was **approved** for an amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Office (vote: 5-0)

Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments March 2021:

There were no Tier I amendments reviewed in March.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; informational item only.

4A. Forward Pinellas Equity Assessment

SUMMARY

Forward Pinellas is conducting an equity assessment of its agency operations and planning activities. The goal is to ensure the Forward Pinellas mission to “provide leadership to align resources and plans that help to achieve a compelling vision for Pinellas County, our individual communities and our region” is both inclusionary and equitable.

As part of this assessment, Forward Pinellas will conduct research, stakeholder engagement, and analysis for the development of a forward-looking strategic plan to enhance equity within Forward Pinellas staff, governance, and committee structure, as well as Forward Pinellas work products.

Additionally, the equity assessment will research the systems, policies, and practices that have resulted in inequity, particularly among ethnic minorities, in Pinellas County, and develop a series of actions to ensure that our work as the countywide planning agency is inclusive and results in equitable outcomes for the entire community. In conjunction with this research, Forward Pinellas will be documenting the agency structure, committee, and board composition. This data will assist in the goal to provide diverse and equitable opportunities as well as a develop a wide range of public partnerships.

Please assist us in this effort by taking a few minutes to complete the demographic survey located at: <https://forms.gle/erPK4vDuGhGNF4Tq6>.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: PAC members to complete the demographic survey for each representative and alternate as currently appointed to serve on the committee.

4B. Legislative Update

SUMMARY

The 2021 State Legislative Session begins on March 2, with more than 2,400 bills filed thus far. We are tracking a number of bills with relevance to local and regional planning efforts, as listed below. While the session has not yet begun, committee meetings are being held and some bills have begun advancing. Select bills of interest are summarized below.

Proposed Building Design Legislation

[House Bill \(HB\) 55](#), filed by Representative Overdorf, and [Senate Bill \(SB\) 284](#), filed by Senator Perry, would prohibit local zoning and development regulations relating to building design elements for a “single-or two-family dwelling,” including the appearance of roofs, porches, windows, entry doors, garage doors, and architectural style. Exceptions apply for designated historic properties, Community Redevelopment Areas, master planned communities, or as needed to meet requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Effective date for both bills: July 1, 2021. HB 55 has passed all three of its committees and is awaiting a House floor vote. SB 284 has passed two of its three committees.

The proposed legislation would undermine local governments' ability to determine the character of their own communities. Forward Pinellas has written a letter of opposition to the bills (attached).

Unfortunately, the bills appear to have the support of many lawmakers, have been moving quickly through the committee process, and appear unlikely to be stopped. Local lobbying efforts have turned to the amending the language to apply only to lots that have never been developed, which would largely exempt Pinellas County.

Traffic and Pedestrian Safety

[HB 1113](#), filed by Representative Fine, and [SB 1412](#), filed by Senator Perry, propose to significantly limit state and local governments' ability to use yellow rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs) at pedestrian crossings, among other provisions. The bill stipulates that by October 1, 2022, the Florida Department of Transportation shall request federal authorization to allow yellow RRFBs to be replaced by red RRFBs. If authorization is granted, the entity with jurisdiction over such crosswalk will have 12 months to implement the change or remove the yellow RRFB. If authorization is not granted, yellow RRFBs must be removed from roadways with a speed limit of 30 miles per hour or greater by October 1, 2025. HB 1113 has passed two of its three committees, and SB 1412 has passed one.

While the bill sponsors have been promoting the provision that would require turning the yellow flashing lights to red, in fact the proposed law would be much more damaging, forcing the removal of the devices on most roadways. Forward Pinellas has written a letter of opposition to the bills (attached).

Growth Management

[HB 59](#), filed by Representative McClain, and [SB 496](#), filed by Senator Perry, would require a Private Property Rights element to be adopted into local comprehensive plans. A version of this bill has been filed annually for several years. Last year, the Senate version of the bill, which passed both chambers but was ultimately vetoed by the governor, also contained a provision that would have invalidated countywide planning for some counties. We will continue to monitor this year's version closely. Effective date for both bills: July 1, 2021. Both bills have passed out of the committee process and are awaiting floor votes in their respective chambers.

Vacation Rentals

Two competing sets of bills have been filed governing local regulation of vacation rentals.

[HB 1481](#), filed by Representative Goff-Marcil, and [SB 1988](#), filed by Senator Pizzo, are two newly filed bills that would reduce some of the current state preemption on local regulation of vacation rentals. The bills propose to:

- Allow local governments to adopt land development regulations specific to vacation rentals, as long as they do not prohibit or regulate the siting of those uses or regulate the duration or frequency of stays; and
- Preserve the grandfathered status of regulations adopted before June 1, 2011, and allow them to be amended without losing their grandfathered status.

The effective date for both bills is July 1, 2021. Neither bill has been heard by any committees.

[HB 219](#), filed by Representative Fischer, and [SB 522](#), filed by Senator Diaz, propose to further revise the State's preemption of local regulation of vacation rentals. The bills propose to:

- Expand the preemption to include local inspection or licensing of vacation rentals, and regulation of online vacation rental advertising platforms;
- Preserve the prohibition against regulating duration and frequency of stays;
- Preserve the grandfathering of local regulations adopted prior to July 1, 2011, and add a provision allowing amendments to make them less restrictive; and
- In the House bill only, establish that vacation rentals may only be subject to other local regulations if they apply uniformly to all residential properties, potentially invalidating local ordinances for some non-grandfathered communities.

The effective date for both bills is upon becoming law. SB 522 has passed two of its three committees, and HB 291 has passed one.

Urban Agriculture

At the request of the City of St. Petersburg, [SB 628](#), filed by Senator Rouson, and [HB 1013](#), filed by Representative Rayner, propose to create the Florida Urban Agriculture Act to distinguish between urban agriculture and traditional farming in rural areas. Traditional farms are exempt from most local land development regulations under the Florida Right to Farm Act, which protects them from encroachment by suburban development, but also

making it difficult for communities to allow new farms in developed urban areas. Forward Pinellas staff worked with the City on previous versions of the proposed legislation.

HB 1013 would allow all local governments in dense urban and areas to regulate new urban agriculture uses on land that is not zoned for traditional agriculture as a principal use. SB 628 would take a different approach, creating a program to designate five pilot communities where local regulation would be allowed.

Effective date for both bills: July 1, 2021. SB 628 has passed two of its three committees, and HB 1013 has passed one.

Solar Electrical Generating Facilities

[SB 1008](#), filed by Senator Hutson, [SB 1960](#), filed by Senator Bean, and [HB 761](#), filed by Representative Overdorf, would permit solar facilities (including solar farms and related buildings, transmission lines and substations) as-of-right in agricultural land use categories and zoning districts. The uses would be required to comply with minimal criteria such as setbacks and buffering applicable to similar uses within the agricultural district. Effective date for both bills: July 1, 2021. None of the bills has been heard by any committees thus far.

Home-Based Businesses

[SB 266](#), filed by Senator Perry, and [HB 403](#), filed by Representative Giallombardo, propose to preempt local regulation of home-based businesses. Both bills allow residential property owners to operate businesses from their homes, provided that the business does not create a substantial increase in traffic, noise, or solid waste/recycling; does not employ more than two unrelated non-resident employees; and does not create a visible use that is inconsistent with residential zoning. Licensure and regulation of home-based businesses are preempted to the state, and local governments may not enact or enforce any regulation of them. Effective date for both bills: July 1, 2021. SB 266 has passed two of its three committees, and HB 403 has passed out of the committee process and is awaiting a floor vote.

Legal Notices

[HB 35](#), filed by Representative Fine, and [SB 402](#), filed by Senator Rodrigues, propose to allow local governments to advertise public hearings on websites in lieu of a newspaper, with each bill taking a different approach. HB 35 would allow notices to be published on a publicly available website, provided that the local government maintains a registry of citizens who opt to be notified by mail or email, and advertises the availability of this service in a newspaper once per year. SB 402 permits notices to be published on a on the website of a newspaper of general circulation. The effective date for both bills is July 1, 2022. .

SB 402 has passed one of its three committees, but HB 35 has already passed a House floor vote and is awaiting action in the Senate.

Impact Fees

[HB 337](#), filed by Representative DiCeglie, and [SB 750](#), filed by Senator Gruters, would place new conditions on impact fee collection by local governments. New definitions appear to allow the fees to be used only for emergency medical, fire, and law enforcement facilities. The bill would allow fees to be collected only if the local government has planned or funded capital improvements within the impact fee assessment district. Increases to impact fees were limited to 3% annually in the original bills, but have been revised to allow a maximum of

25% spread over two years or 50% spread over four. Effective date for both bills: July 1, 2021. Each bill has passed two of its three committees.

Regional Planning Councils

[SB 62](#), filed by Senator Bradley, proposes to abolish the state's regional planning councils. Local governments would have the option of entering into agreements to create regional planning entities, but without the authority of current regional planning councils. Effective date: July 1, 2021. There is currently no House companion. The bill has passed one of its three committees.

Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA)

[SB 1130](#), filed by Senator Brandes, would dissolve TBARTA and distribute its assets to member local governments represented on the authority's board. Effective date: July 1, 2022. There is currently no House companion. The bill has not yet been heard by any committees.

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ATTACHMENT(S):

- Forward Pinellas Letter Opposing SB 284 and HB 55
- Forward Pinellas Letter Opposing SB 1412 and HB 1113

ACTION: None required; informational item only.



March 22, 2021

Senator Keith Perry
406 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

RE: SB 284 and HB 55 - An Act Relating to Building Design

Dear Senator Perry:

Forward Pinellas, the planning council and metropolitan planning organization for Pinellas County, has reviewed Senate Bill 284 and House Bill 55, entitled “An act relating to building design.” On behalf of our 24 municipalities and the unincorporated county, we would like to express our strong opposition to these bills, which undermine local governments’ ability to determine the character of their own communities.

We object to the assertion that local governments should not be allowed to regulate building design for most single-family and two-family dwellings. Building design is essential to community character. Particularly for mature communities such as those in Pinellas County, where neighborhoods are already established and new development is primarily in the form of infill and redevelopment, design standards ensure that new residential structures fit in aesthetically and functionally, without disrupting quality of life for existing residents.

Rather than detracting from housing affordability, building design is essential to addressing it. In an increasingly common approach to addressing the housing affordability crisis, a number of communities in Pinellas County allow and encourage the construction of “missing middle” housing—small multifamily buildings, including duplexes, that are compatible in scale and design with single-family neighborhoods. These buildings provide more dwelling units on less land without disrupting existing neighborhoods, placing housing affordability within reach of more families. But this important new source of affordable housing cannot be implemented without building design regulations.

Building design is also essential to the walkability of neighborhoods. The location and design of garages can affect the safety of pedestrians on the sidewalk. The presence of front porches draws residents outdoors and directs more attention toward the street, which can increase public safety. The design of building frontages, such as the presence and visibility of windows and doors, can mean

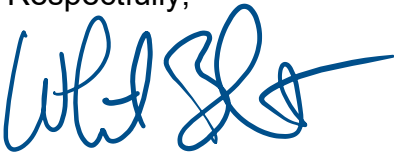
the difference between an inviting streetscape that encourages walking, and an imposing one that discourages it. The same factors that affect walkability also affect other non-automobile modes of transportation, such as biking and transit use. Preempting building design will contribute to an environment that is less safe for these vulnerable transportation users.

The above issues can be mitigated somewhat by the amendments to SB 284 proposed by Senator Powell. Creating an exemption for previously developed parcels would protect mature communities from negative impacts to their current character and walkability; and limiting the preemption to affordable housing units as defined by Section 420.0004, Florida Statutes, would limit negative impacts more broadly while still meeting the bill's intended purpose of promoting housing affordability. While the proposed legislation remains problematic generally, we support these amendments.

Forward Pinellas is committed to advocating for our member local governments and ensuring their ability to create safe, healthy, equitable communities that respect local character. While well-intended, this proposed legislation advocates for a one-size-fits-all legislative approach that is at odds with the established principles of sound land use planning. I urge you to consider the negative consequences, both direct and indirect, of these bills.

Please contact me at 727-464-8712 if you would like clarification on the Forward Pinellas policy position.

Respectfully,



Whit Blanton, FAICP
Executive Director

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Community Affairs
Members of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries
Members of the Senate Committee on Rules
Pinellas County Legislative Delegation
Forward Pinellas Board



March 21, 2021

Senator Keith Perry
406 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

RE: SB 1412 and HB 1113 – Traffic and Pedestrian Safety

Dear Senator Perry:

On behalf of Forward Pinellas, the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for Pinellas County, I am writing in strong opposition to SB 1412 and HB 1113, both titled “Traffic and Pedestrian Safety.” As the transportation planning agency in a county that has made significant investment in mid-block crosswalks to encourage safe pedestrian access to destinations, these bills would set roadway safety in Florida back decades, to a time when Florida only designed roadways for the speed and convenience of motorized vehicles.

The bills are unnecessary, expensive, and would undermine the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists by restricting their access and removing the protections in place for them as legitimate users of public space. Mid-block crosswalks with yellow flashing beacons are a cost-effective solution to our [“Dangerous by Design”](#) roadways, where Florida leads the nation in pedestrian traffic deaths.

The bills appear innocuous, but the following provisions make this legislation harmful:

- Requiring traffic control signal devices and pedestrian control signals at mid-block crosswalks with posted speed limits of 30 miles per hour or more to be coordinated with traffic control signal devices at intersections adjacent to the crosswalk, and
- If the Federal Government denies the request to turn the yellow flashing beacons to red, the applicable entity must remove all yellow RRFBs at mid-block crosswalks by October 1, 2025.

The requirement that mid-block crosswalk signals (rectangular rapid flashing beacons, or RRFBs) be coordinated or timed with the adjacent traffic signal is impractical and displays a lack of understanding about traffic engineering practice. Most mid-block crosswalks are in locations far away from a full traffic signal, hence the need for the crossing. It is this excessive spacing of traffic signals that creates hazardous walking conditions on many Florida roadways, resulting in pedestrians killed or seriously injured attempting to cross without any protection. Mid-block crosswalks with RRFBs operate “on-demand,” not contingent on a change in signal phase at a full intersection that may be several hundred or several thousand feet away. Even if possible, timing them with the adjacent signal would build in delays of 60 to more than 180 seconds, undermining the purpose of the crossing.

The bills are an unfunded mandate on state and local governments, already struggling with budgets that barely fund transportation operations and maintenance costs. The House staff bill analysis shows the state's fiscal impact is estimated at \$14.9 million and the local government impact is likely far greater. ***In Pinellas County alone, there are more than 350 RRFBs at mid-block crosswalks.*** The City of St. Petersburg estimates that these bills, if passed, would force the removal of 90 mid-block crossings at a cost of \$750,000 in that city alone.

While there is no risk-free form of transportation, mid-block crossings with RRFBs are very effective at reducing the risk of people crossing the road being struck by a motor vehicle. According to the FHWA, the devices can reduce pedestrian crashes by 47 percent, with motorist compliance typically reaching 85-90 percent. In recognition of their effectiveness and their significant safety benefits, the Federal Highway Administration and Florida Department of Transportation have authorized and endorsed their use in certain settings. The FHWA lists the RRFBs as the top countermeasure for its [Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian \(STEP\) 2.0](#) initiative.

RRFBs reinforce the legal obligation of vehicles to stop for a pedestrian using a marked crosswalk. They provide higher visibility, especially in low light or night-time hours, as a safety countermeasure for people using state and local roadways. In the Pinellas County beach communities along Gulf Boulevard/SR 699, a major tourist destination, mid-block crosswalks with RRFBs are effective tools for speed management, where speeding on this corridor once was a major cause of vehicle crashes.

Mid-block crosswalks with RRFBs do not belong everywhere. The Florida Department of Transportation has made reasonable changes to its traffic engineering manual that ***limit RRFBs to roadways with a posted speed of 35 mph or less***, and to roadways with no more than four through travel lanes, with an exception for divided roadways if a raised median is in place. Those are reasonable restrictions. The Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon is a more appropriate crosswalk device for such higher speed, wider roadways.

Forward Pinellas is committed to safety for all roadway users in Pinellas County, and mid-block crosswalks with RRFBs are a key part of the solution. We recognize they do not remove all risk to pedestrians, and there is a significant need for additional statewide education, testing and enforcement of existing laws to further increase the effectiveness of RRFBs and other safety devices on the roadway network. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Whit Blanton, FAICP
Executive Director

cc: Senate Transportation Committee
Senate Appropriations Committee
House Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee
Pinellas County Legislative Delegation
Forward Pinellas Board

SUMMARY

Forward Pinellas has begun the process to reevaluate its residential equivalency standards based on a privately-initiated request to amend the Countywide Rules regarding these standards. Currently, the Countywide Plan Rules provide for a maximum of 3.0 beds per permitted dwelling unit, for all Countywide Plan categories. The agency has received a request to consider an increase to 5.0 beds per permitted dwelling unit. The private initiate is particularly requesting this increase for the Assisted Living Facility use, though it should be noted that our residential equivalency standards are also applicable to other uses, as outlined in the Rules.

Thank you to the members of the PAC for their feedback on this subject so far. Based on the responses received to the survey distributed at last month's PAC meeting, the general consensus was that your local governments had not seen, to the members' knowledge, any requests for developments which would surpass our current standards. Furthermore, members generally stated that they would consider adopting any changes to these residential equivalency standards in their own local Comprehensive Plans. We also considered the concerns expressed regarding an increase in residential equivalency standards for all uses as well as the concerns for increasing these standards in the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA).

Based on these responses and concerns, staff proposes amending the Countywide Rules to now include a section for a Senior Housing Bonus under Section 4.3.2.5, where density/intensity bonuses are also available for Affordable Housing and Missing Middle Housing uses. Like the premise of these existing bonuses, this bonus could be adopted by your local governments, at the discretion and need of your jurisdictions. Furthermore, the Rules would not designate a specific maximum density/intensity, as this would be at the discretion of the local government, pursuant to the consistency review standards of Countywide Rules Section 3.3.1 However, we will prohibit these density/intensity bonuses from being applied in the CHHA.

As a reminder, it will not be a requirement for this Senior Housing density/intensity bonus be adopted locally. Furthermore, if adopted, local governments can adopt standards that are more restrictive than the Countywide Rules, if desired. Our anticipated next steps for this proposed amendment is to draft new language for the Countywide Rules pertaining to this bonus, and to present this to the PAC as an action item and seek a recommendation for the proposed amendment to the Rules at the May PAC meeting.

At this time, we are asking PAC members for questions, comments or feedback regarding this proposed change to the Countywide Rules.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; Informational item only.

4D. Gateway/Mid-County Working Group

SUMMARY

The Pinellas Gateway/Mid-County Area Master Plan was completed in September 2020, and Forward Pinellas and our local government partners are now moving toward the implementation phase. As part of this process, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed to document the commitment between all the partners to implement the Gateway Master Plan. The MOU will guide implementation activities and create a regular reporting/feedback mechanism within all four jurisdictions covered by the Master Plan. The MOU was signed by all the local government partners in October 2020 and adopted by the Forward Pinellas Board in November 2020.

As part of the commitment to implement the Plan, Forward Pinellas and our partners are working to eliminate barriers to implementation. The Gateway Master Plan identifies existing policy support as well as policy gaps in the Countywide Plan and at the local government level that could inhibit the implementation of the Gateway Master Plan, such as barriers related multijurisdictional review of projects. At the last PAC meeting, we discussed creation of a PAC subcommittee that would consist of membership from the partner jurisdictions of St. Petersburg, Largo, Pinellas Park, and Pinellas County. Upon further discussion and consideration of PAC member input, staff recommends that the subcommittee be moved to a standalone Gateway Working Group to better serve as a forum for multijurisdictional and other project coordination. A working group outside of the PAC structure would allow for the participation of more diverse local staff members, and would help avoid some sunshine law limitations.

The purpose of the group is to provide input on development proposals to streamline the approval process. It will provide the opportunity for working group members to learn from each jurisdictional process, provide feedback on implementation barriers, and report out new development in the Gateway area. The working group will consist of members from each jurisdiction; however, members of the PAC or alternates cannot be involved as the working group may review development proposals that may come before the PAC for action. Staff will provide an update as well as an overview of the working group purpose and objectives.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: PAC to dissolve the previously created PAC subcommittee.

Planners Advisory Committee- April 5, 2021

4E. Orientation Guide for New PAC Members



SUMMARY

Forward Pinellas has created an orientation guide for new PAC members to ensure that meetings follow established procedures, and committee members are well versed on the various requirements and expectations of them.

The document covers topics such as: the roles and responsibilities of the different committee members, an overview of the PPC process, what to expect at meetings, what is expected of members, a brief overview of the Florida Sunshine Law and how it relates to PAC members, Robert's Rules of Order, why quorum and attendance are essential, how to make motions and vote, as well as addressing public comment.

The end of the document features various exhibits and documents that show how agendas are formatted, as well as providing new members with different reference links for material(s) that may need to be reviewed prior to a meeting.

The overall goal of the PAC Orientation is to place new members as well as existing members on a level playing field and to ensure that new members are equipped with the tools and knowledge to be an active participant in this very important PPC function.

ATTACHMENT(S): Draft PAC Orientation Guide

ACTION: None required; Informational item only.



PLANNERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) ORIENTATION GUIDE



MARCH 2021 / PREPARED BY AUSTIN BRITT

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WHIT BLANTON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear PAC Committee Member,

Welcome to the Forward Pinellas Planners Advisory Committee! On behalf of our staff and board – Thank You!

Thanks for your service in this important advisory role for effective countywide planning and decision-making. Thanks for the expertise you bring as a professional to ensure a broad perspective of the issues and our ability to adapt quickly as conditions may require. Thanks for your professional and ethical commitment, and your respect for process. We navigate a lot of jurisdictional matters, and your active engagement is helpful to every Pinellas County community's near-term and long-term success.

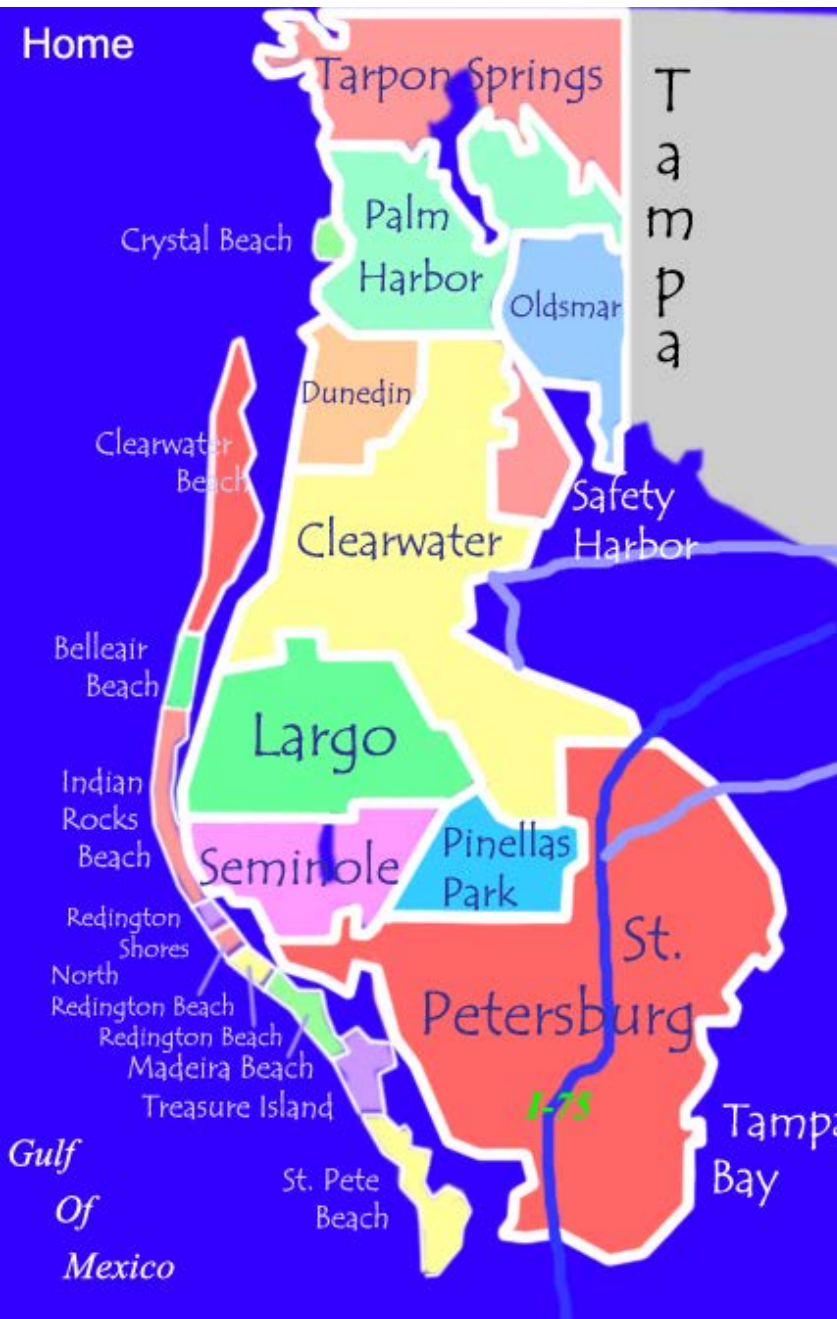
The Planners Advisory Committee role within Forward Pinellas is essential to our mission – aligning plans and resources for actions to achieve a compelling vision for Pinellas County and its diverse communities. You have statutory countywide responsibilities as a land use advisory body, but there is more to it. We are continuing to work for better alignment of land use, transportation, and community planning activities. This committee serves as a forum for sharing ideas, issues of concern, best practices, research and other topics to help realize countywide and regional goals, achieve objectives, and serve the public interest.

Help us hold up a mirror to Pinellas County, acknowledge the past, and look toward the future. The discussions, recommendations, and actions of the Planners Advisory Committee matter in how we inform each other, shape policy, guide projects, and accomplish shared outcomes.

We look forward to working with you!

Whit Blanton, FAICP

Executive Director



CHAIR

The Chair is in charge of facilitating each PAC meeting. They will communicate regularly with the Vice-Chair to ensure that he or she knows enough about the current issues to be able to stand in at short notice.

The Chair will also suggest group direction and options for setting committee goals for the year, all while providing a supportive environment for process, content, and committee members.

It is the Chair's responsibility to coordinate the activities of any subcommittees as well set the tone and pace for each meeting they preside over.

When advising the Forward Pinellas Board, the PAC Chair acts as a representative of the committee itself.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

By participating as a member of the committee, each person makes a unique contribution through his or her presence alone, but some members may assume additional roles within the committee. Each role that people fulfill within the committee has guidelines that help ensure success. The following are general guidelines for various roles that you may fulfill during your time with the committee.



VICE-CHAIR

The Vice-Chair is responsible for facilitating the PAC meeting when the Chair is absent.

They will also establish effective working relationships with the committee members.

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair will represent the PAC at any Forward Pinellas Board Meetings.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee members will arrange adequate time to carry out any delegated responsibilities.

Committee members are responsible for coming to meetings prepared, listening to other committee members, following the ground rules of the committee, participating in committee discussion and decision making, and on appropriate sub-committees.



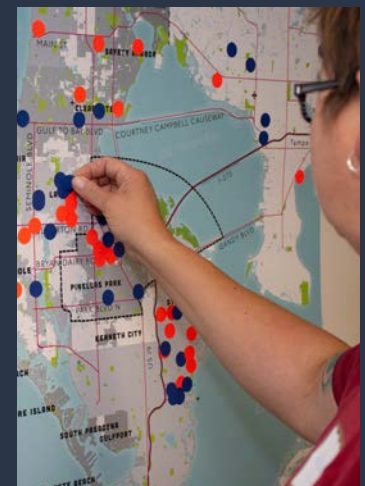
PROCESS OVERVIEW



The Planners' Advisory Committee provides technical input and makes recommendations on cases submitted by local governments that go before the Forward Pinellas Board, acting as the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC). Forward Pinellas staff review future land use cases against the Countywide Considerations set forth in the Countywide Rules, which the PAC then use to make their recommendation to the PPC.

These considerations include the following: consistency with the Countywide Rules, consideration of transportation impacts, impacts on the Scenic/Noncommercial Corridor and Coastal High Hazard Area, impacts on adjacent jurisdictions and educational facilities, and the reservation of Industrial land.

As the PAC is comprised of many local government representatives, the relevant representative is also able to provide further information and answer inquiries related to their future land use cases. The PAC is also a forum for special topic subcommittees and provides input to Forward Pinellas on various initiatives or areas of study. Subcommittees are often comprised of an array of local government representatives to provide a holistic perspective from different areas of the county. With PAC meetings being a regular gathering of planners around the County, as a forum for sharing information about the initiatives and concerns of our county's municipalities.



WHAT TO EXPECT

Know what a meeting looks like and what is expected from you

The Florida Sunshine Law

1. What is the "Sunshine Law"?
 - A statutory and constitutional right of access to governmental proceedings at the state and local level.
2. Who does the Sunshine Law apply to?
 - The Sunshine Law applies to a variety of different boards and committees vested with decision-making authority, which includes the authority to make recommendations. As the PAC is vested with such Authority, pursuant to Chapter 2012-245, Laws of Florida and by subsequent action by Forward Pinellas in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, the PAC is subject to the Sunshine Law.
3. What is the scope of the Sunshine Law?
 - The Sunshine Law applies to any "meeting" of any board or commission of any state, county, city or other political subdivision of the state, whether elected or appointed
 - A "meeting" is defines as any gathering, whether formal or casual, of two or more members of the same committee to discuss some matter on which foreseeable action could be taken by the committee.

WHAT'S IN THIS SECTION?

THE FLORIDA SUNSHINE LAW (PAGE 6 & 7)

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER (MEETING FLOW) (PAGE 8)

QUORUM AND ATTENDANCE (PAGE 9)

MOTIONS (PAGE 9)

VOTING (PAGE 10)

PUBLIC COMMENT (PAGE 10)



**FORWARD
PINELLAS**
Integrating Land Use & Transportation



- Discussing anything that will come before the PAC for action with another PAC member by any meeting is in violation of the Sunshine Law if the meeting requirements discussed below are not observed.

4. What are the requirements of the Sunshine Law?

- There are three basic requirements of the Sunshine Law
 1. Meetings must be open to the public
 2. Reasonable notice of such meetings must be given
 3. Minutes of the meetings must be taken and promptly recorded
- Thus, PAC members should not interact with other members of the PAC by any means regarding items that will foreseeably come before the PAC for action except for during open, advertised meetings where minutes are taken.
- The Sunshine Law is complex. It is strongly encouraged that you familiarize yourself with all general aspects of the Sunshine Law prior to sitting on the committee.

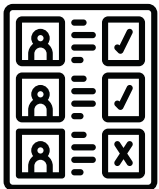
Familiarize yourself with *all general aspects* of the Sunshine Law prior to sitting on the committee.





Robert's Rules of Order

The Planners Advisory Committee has established a set of bylaws that cover how meetings will run, how decisions are reached, and other guidelines. A deeper explanation of these rules and expectations are laid out in the PAC Bylaws. Each member is expected to familiarize themselves with the committee bylaws which will prepare them to be effective members of the board. Some examples of ground rules include:



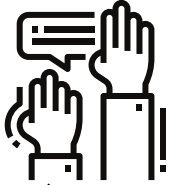
- **Attendance** - Committees should place a high priority on meetings, talk about what would be legitimate reasons for missing a meeting, and establish a procedure for informing the Chair of an absence from a scheduled meeting.



- **Promptness** - Meetings should begin and end on time.



- **Meeting Place and Time** - Specify a regular meeting time and place, and establish a procedure of notifying members of meetings.



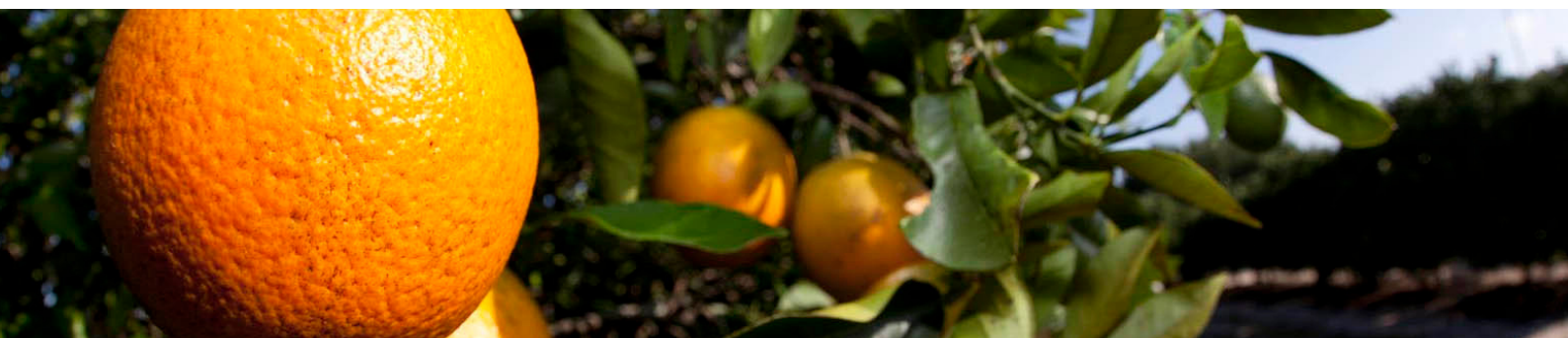
- **Participation** - Everyone's viewpoint is valuable. Every member can make a unique contribution; therefore, emphasize the importance of both speaking freely and listening attentively.



- **Conversational Courtesies** - Listen attentively and respectfully to other, do not interrupt, one conversation at a time, and so forth.

If you would like resources on how to apply these rules to the discussion prior to a decision, please see the link below:

http://diphi.web.unc.edu/files/2012/02/MSG-ROBERTS_RULES_CHEAT_SHEET.pdf



Regular attendance at meetings is **NECESSARY.**

Quorum & Attendance

To ensure the efficient and effective working of the Planners Advisory Committee, regular attendance at meetings is necessary.

A quorum (or majority) of the committee members is necessary to conduct any official business, such as making recommendations. Without a quorum, the PAC is unable to take any action.

Motions

A motion is a method to initiate discussion and action. There are a number of types of motions, each of which must meet certain requirements before a vote can be taken. Below are examples of making, discussing, and voting on a motion:

1. The maker of the motion asks for recognition by the Chair
2. After the individual is recognized, he/she/they will state, "I move..."
3. The Chair will ask if there is a second. Another member of the committee must second the motion for discussion to start on the motion.
4. The Chair will then restate the motion, "It has been moved and seconded that..." and opens the floor to discussion
5. The Chair will recognize members who wish to comment on the motion with only one motion being discussed at a time.
6. At the end of the discussion period the Chair will "Call for the vote."
7. The vote can either be done by voice or roll call.





Voting

When present, and unless a legal voting conflict exists, all committee members will vote. A vote that results in a tie is equivalent to a vote that has failed.



Public Comment

Individuals have a right to be heard on any proposition before a board or commission. This opportunity to be heard does not need to occur at the same meeting that the PAC takes official action if the opportunity occurs at a meeting that is in the decision-making process and is within reasonable proximity before the meeting at which the PAC takes action.



EXHIBITS AND LINKS

On the following pages are examples of documents that you will interact with on a regular basis. Familiarize yourself with the format these documents follow, and their purposes.



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- 13 SAMPLE MEETING SUMMARY
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- 16 PAC BYLAWS
- 17 MEETING SCHEDULE
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**PLANNERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)
MEETING AGENDA**

November 2, 2020 – 1:30 p.m.

Magnolia Room at Florida Botanical Gardens
12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo

THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **[APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 5, 2020](#)**
3. **REVIEW OF FORWARD PINELLAS AGENDA FOR November 10, 2020**

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Countywide Plan Map Amendment(s)

- A. Case CW 20-19 – City of Tarpon Springs
- B. Case CW 20-20 – City of St. Petersburg

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- C. Countywide Plan Map Annual Update – Official Acceptance
- D. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments

4. **PLANNING TOPICS OF INTEREST**

- A. Forward Pinellas Complete Streets Grant Applications (Action)
- B. Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) Mitigation Program (St. Pete Presentation)

5. **OTHER PAC BUSINESS/PAC DISCUSSION AND UPCOMING AGENDA**

- A. Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update (Information)
- B. 2021 PAC Membership Roster/Election of Officers for 2021 (Action)
- C. Draft 2021 Meeting Schedule for PAC, Forward Pinellas and CPA (Information)

6. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Nov 6 th	Homes for Pinellas Virtual Summit Series Session 3: Local Government Innovation – 11:30 a.m.
Nov 20 th	Session 4: Corridor Planning Strategy – 11:30 a.m.
Dec 11 th	Session 5: Elements of the Countywide Housing Strategy – 11:30 a.m.
Nov 16-19 th	Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit
Dec 2 nd	Safe Streets Pinellas Committees Workshop – 2:00 p.m. (see flyer)
Dec 18 th	Forward Pinellas Waterborne Transportation Subcommittee – 1:00 p.m.
Jan 29 th	Forward Pinellas Board Workshop – 9 a.m. - Noon

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

NEXT PAC MEETING – MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact

PAC AGENDA – SUMMARY AGENDA ACTION SHEET
DATE: OCTOBER 5, 2020

ITEM	ACTION TAKEN	VOTE
1. <u>CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL</u>	<p>The PAC held its October 5, 2020 meeting in the Magnolia Room at the Florida Botanical Gardens; 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.</p> <p>The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. and the members introduced themselves.</p> <p>Committee members in attendance included Kyle Brotherton, Derek Reeves, Corey Gray, Rick Perez, Jan Norsoph, Britton Wilson, Frances Leong-Sharp (late arrival), Derek Kilborn, Jamie Viveiros, Zain Husain, Marie Dauphinais, Wesley Wright, Marshall Touchton and Linda Portal.</p> <p>Forward Pinellas staff included Rodney Chatman, Linda Fisher, Jared Austin, Christina Mendoza, Nousheen Rahman, Tina Jablon, Amy Elmore and Intern Austin Britt.</p> <p>Other interested parties were in attendance and included Bob Daniels, Madeira Beach City Manager; Nick Colonna, Pinellas Park Planning & Development Services Director and Andrew Morris, City of Madeira Beach</p>	
2. <u>MINUTES OF REGULAR PAC MEETING OF AUGUST 31, 2020</u>	<p>Motion: Derek Reeves Second: Marie Dauphinais</p> <p>Note: France Leong-Sharp had not yet arrived at the meeting</p>	11-0
3. <u>REVIEW OF FORWARD PINELLAS AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 14, 2020 MEETING</u> <u>PUBLIC HEARINGS</u> A. CW 20-16 – City of St. Petersburg	<p>Derek Kilborn, City of St. Petersburg, provided an overview of the map amendment.</p> <p>Motion: Marshall Touchton Second: Marie Dauphinais</p>	12-0
B. CW 20-17 – City of Pinellas Park	<p>Derek Reeves, City of Pinellas Park, provided an overview of the map amendment.</p> <p>Motion: Jamie Viveiros Second: Marshall Touchton</p>	12-0

<p>C. CW 20-18 – City of Largo</p>	<p>Rick Perez, along with Alicia Parinello, City of Largo, provided an overview of the map amendment.</p> <p>Motion: Jan Norsoph Second: Corey Gray</p>	<p>12-0</p>
<p><u>REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS</u> D. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments</p>	<p>None required; informational item only</p>	
<p>4. <u>PLANNING TOPICS OF INTEREST</u> A. Multimodal Accessibility Index Knowledge Exchange Series Update</p>	<p>Jared Austin, Forward Pinellas staff, explained the rationale for developing a new, GIS-based, method for evaluating potential transportation-related impacts to future land use map category amendments. The current system relies solely on the level of service (LOS) of adjacent roadways and is only automobile focused. The system currently being evaluated and developed would take into consideration multimodal performance criteria. He provided a demonstration of the new system and outlined the details that went into its development. Forward Pinellas is forming a subcommittee of TCC and PAC members to further refine this methodology with a goal of ultimately replacing roadway LOS over the coming months. Derek Reeves of Pinellas Park volunteered to join the subcommittee and Linda Portal of Madeira Beach offered one staff member to join as well. Once the new methodology is finalized, Forward Pinellas will include this as a Knowledge Exchange Series topic to share with the local governments.</p>	
<p>B. Countywide Housing Strategy and Summit</p>	<p>Linda Fisher reminded the PAC about the initiative being undertaken by Pinellas County, in partnership with Forward Pinellas, to build a countywide strategy to address the critical shortage of affordable housing. She advised that after some delays due to COVID-19, activities are resuming. The first step in the process will be a virtual summit series that will hold its first session on Friday, October 9th. The series will address a variety of key topics. More information is available at: https://www.homesforpinellas.org/summit.</p>	

<p>5. <u>OTHER PAC BUSINESS/PAC DISCUSSION AND UPCOMING AGENDA</u></p> <p>A. Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update (Information)</p>	<p>Rodney Chatman updated the PAC members on the latest information concerning the Forward Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas.</p> <p>He alerted the members that Forward Pinellas is currently working with the involved local governments to move into the implementation phase of the Gateway/Mid-County Area Master Plan. This will be accomplished by way of MOU. The involved jurisdictions are currently receiving presentations and taking actions to adopt the MOU. The Forward Pinellas Board will then adopt the MOU at its November meeting.</p> <p>Forward Pinellas is planning and will host a board workshop in mid to late January on the Vision for the US 19 Corridor. Topics will include a discussion of the innovative intersections being considered by FDOT for the northern portions of the corridor. This will be followed by extensive public engagement with the public and business community to include workshops.</p> <p>It was announced that the first meeting of the Forward Pinellas Waterborne Transportation Subcommittee will be held on Friday, October 9th from 1-3 p.m. in the Magnolia Room at the Florida Botanical Gardens. The group will be discussing the current state of the system, operating agreements, potential funding scenarios, and the possibility for future expansion of service. Mr. Chatman expressed enthusiasm regarding the role PSTA will play in these discussions going forward.</p>	
<p>B. Cancellation of the December PAC Meeting</p>	<p>Motion: Marshall Touchton Second: Rick Perez</p>	<p>12-0</p>
<p>6. <u>UPCOMING EVENTS</u></p>	<p>The PAC Chair highlighted upcoming events of interest and Rodney Chatman provided further details as needed.</p>	
<p>7. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u></p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.</p>	

Respectfully Submitted,

PAC Chairman

Date

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS OF PAC

The PAC was established pursuant to Section 7 (2) Chapter 2012-245, Florida Statutes, as may be amended: Directors of the individual local government land use and planning departments, or their designees, are the members of the planners advisory committee. The planners advisory committee may, at the direction of the council, perform a professional

planning review of the council staff recommendations that are to be acted upon by the council. The planners advisory committee may also include a representative from the planning departments maintained by the Pinellas County School Board, the PSTA, the DOT, and other agencies as the council may determine appropriate. In addition to the planners advisory committee, the council may appoint such other committees as it deems necessary, which may be comprised on either elected or nonelected officials. The committees provided for in this section may perform such other duties as assigned by the council but may not be involved in the administration or executive functions of the council."



You will be provided a copy of the PAC Bylaws for review, which should be done prior to attending your first meeting as a committee member.

PAC BYLAWS

MEETING SCHEDULE

The following link will take you to the Forward Pinellas Meeting Calendar. This calendar lists the PAC Meeting Date, Time, and Location.

<https://forwardpinellas.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/PAC-FP-CPA-Calendar-with-Deadlines.pdf>

At the link below, you will be able to access the list of current PAC members. Click the blue link "PAC Membership" on the page and a new window will open with the most recently updated membership list.

<https://forwardpinellas.org/about-us/advisory-committees/planners-advisory-committee-pac/>

MEMBERSHIP LIST

PROCESS FLOWCHART

A link to this flowchart, as well as some key words and their definitions, can be found at the link below.

<https://forwardpinellas.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Countywide-Plan-Map-Amendment-Guide-1-8-20.pdf>

COUNTYWIDE RULES

The Countywide Rules contain the standards for each land use category.

<https://forwardpinellas.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Countywide-Plan-Rules.pdf>

The Countywide Plan map shows the land use category for each parcel of land.

<http://pinellas-egis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ecd4290f1a534f78b9dbf23878eb7ae0>

COUNTYWIDE PLAN MAP

COUNTYWIDE PLAN STRATEGIES

The Countywide Plan Strategies provide the policy basis for the plan.

<https://forwardpinellas.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Countywide-Plan-Strategies.pdf>



**FORWARD
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Planners Advisory Committee – April 5, 2021

5A. Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update



SUMMARY

Forward Pinellas staff will provide a brief update on the status of the activities related to the three SPOTlight Emphasis Areas.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; informational item only.