



**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA**

January 8, 2020 – 11:00 a.m.
315 Court Street, 5th Floor
Board of County Commissioners Conference Room

THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM October 9, 2019**
- 3. PLANS FOR PINELLAS DAY IN TALLAHASSEE**
- 4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AND DISCUSSION**
- 5. ADJOURNMENT**

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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.

**FORWARD PINELLAS
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
OCTOBER 9, 2019**

Committee Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Dave Eggers, Pinellas County, Forward Pinellas Chair
Councilmember Brandi Gabbard, City of St. Petersburg
Mayor Cookie Kennedy, City of Indian Rocks Beach, Forward Pinellas Treasurer

Not Present:

Councilmember David Allbritton, City of Clearwater

Also Present:

Whit Blanton, Executive Director
Sarah Caper, Principal Planner
Tina Jablon, Executive Administrative Secretary
Chelsea Hardy, County Attorney's Office
Brian Lowack, Intergovernmental Liaison, Pinellas County
Cheryl Reed, Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator, City of Largo

The Forward Pinellas Legislative Committee met in the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners 5th Floor Conference Room.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Eggers called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 8, 2019

A motion was made by Councilmember Gabbard, which was seconded by Mayor Cookie Kennedy, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the May meeting (3-0).

3. 2020 POLICY POSITIONS

Whit Blanton reviewed the proposed policy positions for the committee to approve for recommendation to the full board. The proposed positions included:

- Support Urban Agriculture
- Protect Trust Funds
- Support Flexible and Sustained Transportation Funding
- Stop Distracted Driving
- Maintain MPO Authority for Apportionment Structure
- Support Home Rule

Whit Blanton brought up an additional funding concern that was realized during the development on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The Other Arterials (OA) program that covers other state arterial roads not on the Strategic Intermodal System (SIS) is limited to projects that provide capacity for vehicles, such as added lanes or intersection operations. The group developed additional language to be added under the "Support Flexible and Sustained Transportation Funding" section to address the need for greater flexibility in Pinellas County where road widening opportunities are limited.

The group discussed the guidelines and challenges for using the various types of funding sources and reviewed the policy positions of Forward Pinellas to best address the concerns.

The group discussed the possibility of a legislatively-mandated merger of the Tampa Bay area MPOs and the potential impacts of proposed legislation. Whit Blanton explained that changes to the Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group (TMA) governing policy and operating procedures are currently being considered to demonstrate that the existing structure is working.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gabbard, which was seconded by Mayor Kennedy, and carried unanimously to recommend that the full board adopt the proposed 2020 policy positions with the additional language regarding the OA program.

4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The committee members received the latest MPOAC Legislative Newsletter and a flyer on the Suncoast League of Cities 2020 Legislative Priorities.

5. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional items for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

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3. Plans for Pinellas Day in Tallahassee



SUMMARY

Plans are in the works for a Pinellas County Day event in Tallahassee on January 15, 2020. The tentative agenda includes a morning welcome with guest speakers to cover various topics on the legislative front, meetings during the day with legislators, agency heads, and staff to advance Pinellas County priority issues, and a more relaxed opportunity to meet as a group at the end of the day. Hillsborough and Pasco County representatives will be in Tallahassee on the same day, providing opportunity for shared regional messages.

Transportation and housing are shaping up to be critical issues in 2020. Staff will discuss the key messages, provide an update on meeting opportunities, and seek input from committee members.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; informational item only; or as deemed appropriate by the committee

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4. Legislative Update and Discussion



SUMMARY

Forward Pinellas staff receives information on state bills from several sources. Updates are provided several times a month. Links to the latest updates are provided below. Staff will provide an update on state legislative matters, including highlighting bills of interest.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- [MPOAC Newsletter](#)
- [APA Florida Bill Tracking Report](#)
- [APA Florida Legislative Reporter](#)

ACTION: None required; informational item only; or as deemed appropriate by the committee