



**FORWARD PINELLAS BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**August 2, 2023 – 11:00 a.m.**  
333 Chestnut Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756  
The Palm Room

**THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**2. FINDING OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES TO ALLOW FOR VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION**

The board will make a finding that extenuating circumstances exist to allow for the virtual participation of one of its members.

**3. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

Citizen comments to the board are invited on items or concerns not already scheduled for public hearing on today's agenda. Please limit comments to three minutes.

**4. REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENT PLAN ALTERNATIVES**

After the staff presentation, the board will review and discuss the apportionment plan alternatives.

**5. APPROVAL OF APPORTIONMENT PLAN**

The board will approve its apportionment plan.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

*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.*

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## **SUMMARY**

In accordance with Section 339.175, F.S., the Governor is required to review the membership composition of each metropolitan planning organization (MPO) in conjunction with the decennial Census, and to apportion it as necessary to comply with state and federal requirements. The Apportionment Plan is necessary to identify the voting membership and rotational seat terms for all Forward Pinellas Board members.

At its May board meeting, Forward Pinellas staff presented a range of options for the board to consider in developing a new Apportionment Plan. The board discussed the requests received from municipal partners for individual seats and weighed those requests against the need to maintain proportionate representation amongst the board members. Subsequently, the City of Clearwater also submitted a formal request for an additional seat on the Forward Pinellas Board.

At its July meeting, the board took up the apportionment discussion again. Forward Pinellas staff presented a recommended alternative for the board to discuss and consider. The alternative addressed the requests from municipal partners for seats on the board, comments made by board members that any plan moving forward provide for more proportionate representation from all members, while also adhering to the legal requirements that the Board of County Commissioners retain a minimum of 20% of the seats and that a seat be retained for the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA).

During the discussion at the July meeting, another alternative evolved for consideration that would expand the board to 19 members, including a new seat for Tarpon Springs and additional seats for the cities of St. Petersburg and Clearwater, and Pinellas County. This alternative would retain staff's recommendation to split the inland communities into two groups of three rotating seats.

However, the board was unable to achieve the 10 votes necessary to adopt a final Apportionment Plan. The board directed staff to schedule a special meeting to take up the subject again as soon as possible and before the end of August.

Forward Pinellas staff will provide an overview of the current apportionment alternatives, including the one recommended by staff and the new alternative that arose out of the July board meeting, and seek board support for a final Apportionment Plan. Once approved by the board, each jurisdiction in the county will be asked to sign a resolution of support for the Apportionment Plan and the final Plan will be transmitted to the Governor for review and approval by November 2023. The staff recommendation is presented alongside the other options as discussed at the July board meeting.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- [Forward Pinellas Apportionment Alternatives](#)
- [Presentation](#)

**ACTION:** Board, in its role as the metropolitan planning organization, approve a final Apportionment Plan.

**FORWARD PINELLAS BOARD APPORTIONMENT OPTIONS**

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	2010 Percent of Population	2020 Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
<b>Existing Board Structure</b>				
BCC	3	29.5%	28.7%	23.1%
St. Pete	2	26.7%	26.9%	15.4%
Clearwater	1	11.7%	12.2%	7.7%
Largo	1	8.5%	8.6%	7.7%
Pinellas Park	1	5.4%	5.5%	7.7%
Beaches	1	3.5%	3.2%	7.7%
Dunedin	1	3.9%	3.8%	7.7%
North County	1	5.9%	6.0%	7.7%
Inland Communities	1	4.9%	5.0%	7.7%
PSTA	1	0	N/A	7.7%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
<b>Alternative 2: Alternative 1 + Additional Clearwater Seat</b>			
BCC	4	28.7%	23.5%
St. Pete	3	26.9%	17.6%
Clearwater	2	12.2%	11.8%
Largo	1	8.6%	5.9%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	5.9%
Beaches	1	3.2%	5.9%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	5.9%
Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, Tarpon Springs	1	5.9%	5.9%
Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Seminole	1	2.7%	5.9%
Gulfport, Kenneth City, South Pasadena	1	2.3%	5.9%
PSTA	1	N/A	5.9%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>99.9%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

*This alternative adds seats to better represent underserved communities*

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
BCC	4	28.7%	21.1%
St. Pete	4	26.9%	21.1%
Clearwater	2	12.2%	10.5%
Largo	1	8.6%	5.3%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	5.3%
Beaches	1	3.2%	5.3%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	5.3%
Tarpon Springs	1	2.6%	5.3%
Oldsmar, Safety Harbor	1	3.4%	5.3%
Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Seminole	1	2.7%	5.3%
Gulfport, Kenneth City, South Pasadena	1	2.3%	5.3%
PSTA	1	N/A	5.3%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**ALTERNATIVE DISCUSSED BY BOARD DURING JULY MEETING**

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
<b>Alternative 1: Additional St. Pete Seat; Divided Inland Communities</b>			
BCC	3	28.7%	20.0%
St. Pete	3	26.9%	20.0%
Clearwater	1	12.2%	6.7%
Largo	1	8.6%	6.7%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	6.7%
Beaches	1	3.2%	6.7%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	6.7%
North County	1	6.0%	6.7%
Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Seminole	1	2.7%	6.7%
Gulfport, Kenneth City, South Pasadena	1	2.3%	6.7%
PSTA	1	N/A	6.7%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**ORIGINAL STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
<b>Alternative 3: Alternative 2 + Tarpon Springs Seat</b>			
BCC	4	28.7%	22.2%
St. Pete	3	26.9%	16.7%
Clearwater	2	12.2%	11.1%
Largo	1	8.6%	5.6%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	5.6%
Beaches	1	3.2%	5.6%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	5.6%
Tarpon Springs	1	2.6%	5.6%
Oldsmar, Safety Harbor	1	3.4%	5.6%
Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Seminole	1	2.7%	5.6%
Gulfport, Kenneth City, South Pasadena	1	2.3%	5.6%
PSTA	1	N/A	5.6%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



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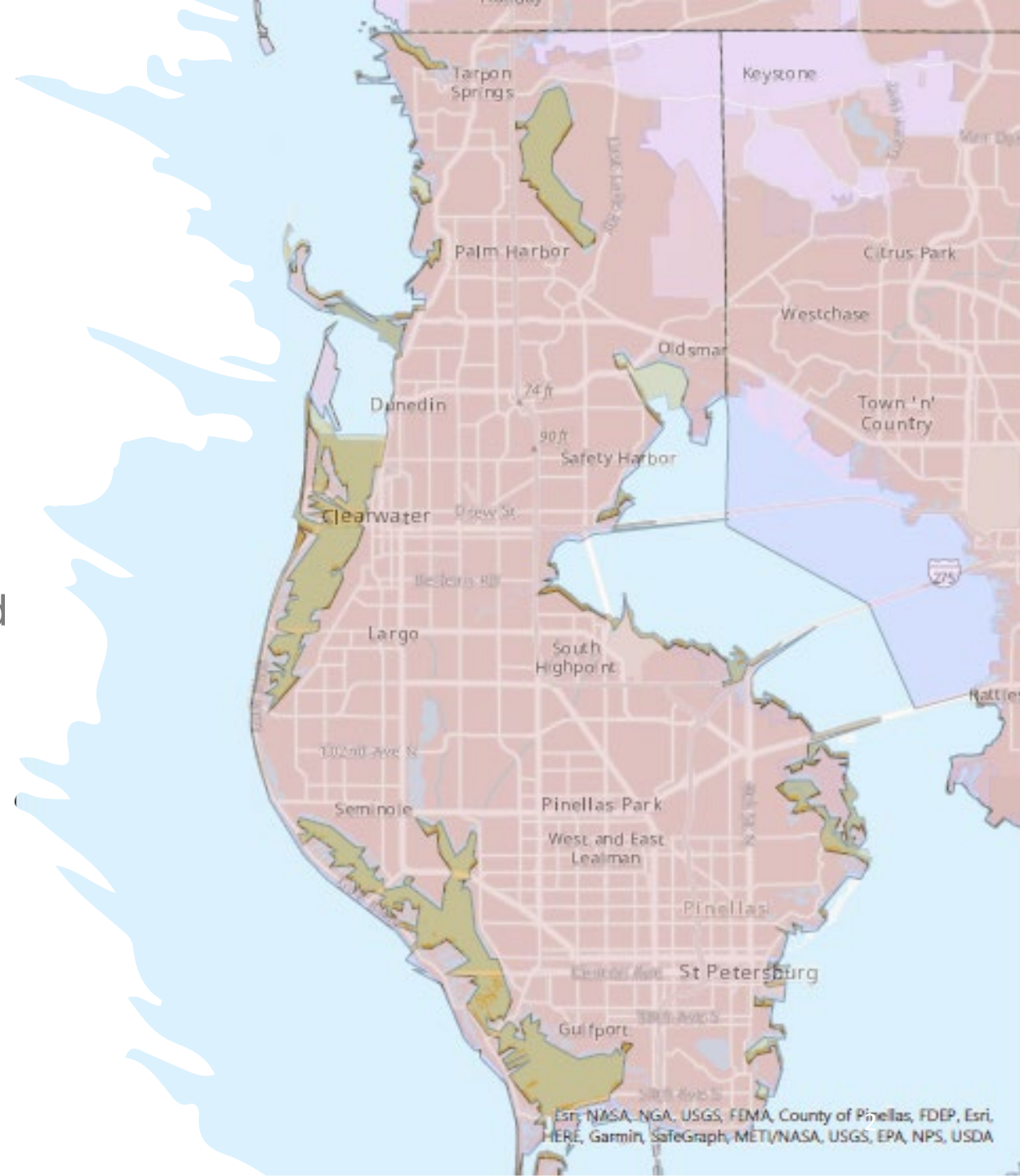
# MPO PROPOSED APPORTIONMENT PLAN

August 2023



## MPO Apportionment

- Identifies the geographic area and voting membership of an MPO
- Apportionment Plan must be based on population ratio and approved by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of board members
- 20% of seats must be for BCC members and PSTA must have a seat
- Must be approved by 75% of voting membership
  - Minimum of 10 votes in support



## Existing Board Voting Structure

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
<i>Existing Board Structure</i>			
BCC	3	28.7%	23.1%
St. Pete	2	26.9%	15.4%
Clearwater	1	12.2%	7.7%
Largo	1	8.6%	7.7%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	7.7%
Beaches	1	3.2%	7.7%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	7.7%
Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, Tarpon Springs	1	6.0%	7.7%
Inland Communities	1	5.0%	7.7%
PSTA	1	N/A	7.7%
Total:	13	100.0%	100.0%



# Alternative 1: Add St. Pete seat and divide inland communities

**Staff  
Recommendation**

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
<i>Alternative 1: Additional St. Pete Seat; Divided Inland Communities</i>			
BCC	3	28.7%	20.0%
St. Pete	3	26.9%	20.0%
Clearwater	1	12.2%	6.7%
Largo	1	8.6%	6.7%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	6.7%
Beaches	1	3.2%	6.7%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	6.7%
Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, Tarpon Springs	1	6.0%	6.7%
Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Seminole	1	2.7%	6.7%
Gulfport, Kenneth City, South Pasadena	1	2.3%	6.7%
PSTA	1	N/A	6.7%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>





## Alternative 2: Alternative 1 + Clearwater + BCC seat

BCC	4	28.7%	23.5%
St. Pete	3	26.9%	17.6%
Clearwater	2	12.2%	11.8%
Largo	1	8.6%	5.9%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	5.9%
Beaches	1	3.2%	5.9%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	5.9%
Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, Tarpon Springs	1	5.9%	5.9%
Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Seminole	1	2.7%	5.9%
Gulfport, Kenneth City, South Pasadena	1	2.3%	5.9%
PSTA	1	N/A	5.9%
Total:	17	99.9%	100.0%



## Alternative 3: Alternative 2 + Tarpon seat

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
Alternative 3: Alternative 2 + Tarpon Springs Seat			
BCC	4	28.7%	22.2%
St. Pete	3	26.9%	16.7%
Clearwater	2	12.2%	11.1%
Largo	1	8.6%	5.6%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	5.6%
Beaches	1	3.2%	5.6%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	5.6%
Tarpon Springs	1	2.6%	5.6%
Oldsmar, Safety Harbor	1	3.4%	5.6%
Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Seminole	1	2.7%	5.6%
Gulfport, Kenneth City, South Pasadena	1	2.3%	5.6%
PSTA	1	N/A	5.6%
Total:	18	100.0%	100.0%



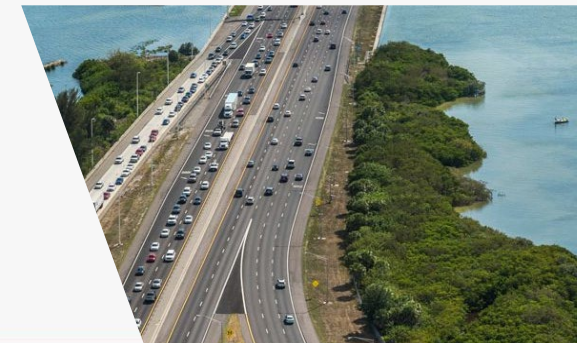
New Alternative - Alternative 3 + 4<sup>th</sup> St. Pete Seat

Jurisdiction	Number of Votes	Percent of Population	Percent of Vote
BCC	4	28.7%	21.1%
St. Pete	4	26.9%	21.1%
Clearwater	2	12.2%	10.5%
Largo	1	8.6%	5.3%
Pinellas Park	1	5.5%	5.3%
Beaches	1	3.2%	5.3%
Dunedin	1	3.8%	5.3%
Tarpon Springs	1	2.6%	5.3%
Oldsmar, Safety Harbor	1	3.4%	5.3%
Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Seminole	1	2.7%	5.3%
Gulfport, Kenneth City, South			
Pasadena	1	2.3%	5.3%
PSTA	1	N/A	5.3%
Total:	19	100.0%	100.0%



# Next Steps

- Final Board Action – 75% of Board
- Gather resolutions of support from local governments
  - Must have resolutions before Plan can be transmitted
  - Support from the local governments representing 75% of the population
- Apportionment Plan must be transmitted to the Office of the Governor by the end of 2023
- Upon approval by the Governor, Interlocal Agreement establishing the MPO will be updated and signed by all local governments





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# Discussion

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