AGENDA

April 12, 2017 - 1:00 p.m.
315 Court Street, 5th Floor
Board Assembly Room
Clearwater, FL 33756

THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (1:00)

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE** (1:05)

3. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD** (1:15)
   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. **CONSENT AGENDA** (1:20)
   A. Approval of Minutes of the March 8, 2017 Meeting
   B. Approval of Committee Appointments (BPAC and TCC)
   C. Approval of Contract with Cherry Bekaert for Auditing Services

5. **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS** – To begin at 1:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as agenda permits
   PINELLAS PLANNING COUNCIL (1:25)
   A. Subthreshold Countywide Plan Map Amendments
      None
      Regular Countywide Plan Map Amendments
      1. CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017) – City of Pinellas Park
      2. CW 17-2 – City of Pinellas Park

6. **PRESENTATION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS** (1:45)
   A. PSTA Activities Report
   B. FY 2015/16 MPO Audit – Action
   C. Coast to Coast Trail Overview
   D. Central Ave Corridor Bus Rapid Transit
   E. Joe's Creek Greenway Trail Alignment Study
   F. Work Session Wrap Up/Strategic Communications Plan – Action
   G. Committee Recommendations (BPAC) – Action
      1. Florida Greenways & Trails System Plan Opportunity and Priority Maps
      2. Penny for Pinellas Sales Tax Referendum

7. **REPORTS/UPDATE** (3:00)
   A. Director's Report
      1. SPOTlight Update
      2. April 7, 2017 TMA Leadership Group Summary
      3. Transportation Management Area (TMA) Federal Certification Update
   B. Legislative Report

8. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS** (3:20)
   A. April 20-21 – Pinellas Economic Leadership Symposium
   B. May 12 – Save the Date – Collaborative Lab on Regional Governance
   C. May 19 – Save the Date – Bike Your City – Clearwater
   D. Summary of Public Outreach and Stakeholder Meetings
   E. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments
   F. Correspondence, Fatalities Map, Pinellas Trail Data and Draft PAC Action Sheet
   G. Committee Vacancies
   H. Other

9. **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.

Persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at this meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

April 12, 2017

4A-C. Consent Agenda

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

SUMMARY

It is approved board procedure to place routine items under the Consent Agenda for approval with no discussion.

The Consent Agenda has been expanded to include those routine report items identified below. If an item requires discussion, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of any member of the Board, discussed, and acted upon separately.

A. Approval of Minutes of the March 8, 2017 Meeting
B. Approval of Committee Appointments (BPAC and TCC)
C. Approval of Contract with Cherry Bekaert for Auditing Services

April 12, 2017

4A. Approval of Minutes of the March 8, 2017 Meeting

ATTACHMENT(S): Minutes of the March 8, 2017 Forward Pinellas meeting

ACTION: Board to receive and accept the March meeting minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
FORWARD PINELLAS
March 8, 2017

Forward Pinellas, the Planning Council and Metropolitan Planning Organization Board for Pinellas County, met in regular session in the County Commission Assembly Room, Pinellas County Courthouse, 315 Court Street, Clearwater, Florida, at 1:03 P.M. on this date with the following members present:

John Morroni, Chairman, Pinellas County Commissioner
Doreen Caudell, Vice-Chairman, City of Clearwater Councilmember
Joanne "Cookie" Kennedy, Treasurer, City of Indian Rocks Beach Commissioner
Representing Beach Communities
Dave Eggers, Secretary, Pinellas County Commissioner
Doug Bevis, City of Oldsmar Mayor
Representing Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, and Tarpon Springs
Sandra Bradbury, City of Pinellas Park Mayor
Lari Johnson, South Pasadena Commissioner
Representing Inland Communities
Bill Jonson, City of Clearwater Vice-Mayor
Representing Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA)
Jim Kennedy, City of St. Petersburg Councilmember
Ed Montanari, City of St. Petersburg Councilmember *(representing Darden Rice)*
Michael Smith, City of Largo Commissioner
John Tornga, City of Dunedin Commissioner
Kenneth T. Welch, Pinellas County Commissioner

Also Present
Whit Blanton, Executive Director, Forward Pinellas
Al Bartolotta, Brett Burks, Sarah Caper, Rodney Chatman, Chelsea Favero, Linda Fisher, Tina Jablon, Hilary Lehman, Alicia Parinello, and Sarah Ward, Forward Pinellas
Chelsea Hardy, Assistant County Attorney
Other interested individuals
Michael P. Schmidt, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

March 8, 2017

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

3. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

4. CONSENT AGENDA
   A. Approval of Minutes of the February 8, 2017 Meeting
   B. Approval of Continuity of Operations Plan
   C. Approval of Committee Appointments (BPAC, LCB, PAC, and TCC)
   D. Quarter 1 Financial Report

5. RECOGNITIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS
   A. Partners in Action Award – City of Clearwater for the Adoption of U.S. 19 Zoning District Development Standards

6. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS – To begin at 1:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as agenda permits
   PINELLAS PLANNING COUNCIL
   A. Subthreshold Countywide Plan Map Amendments
      None
      Regular Countywide Plan Map Amendments
      1. Case CW 17-2 – City of Pinellas Park
      2. Case CW 17-3 – City of Pinellas Park

7. PRESENTATION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS
   A. PSTA Activities Report
   B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Overview
   C. Complete Streets Program Recommendation for Funding – Action
   D. Model Ordinance for Waterborne Transportation – Action
   E. Knowledge Exchange Series – Microbreweries

8. REPORTS/UPDATE
   A. Director's Report
      1. SPOTlight Update
      2. 2016 Audit Updates
      3. Auditor Request for Proposal Status Update
      4. USDOT Federal Highway Administration Peer Exchange April 11-12, 2017
      5. FDOT Community Working Group
   B. Preliminary Budget Fiscal Year 2017-2018
   C. Major Projects Update
   D. Transportation Management Area Federal Certification

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS
   A. Forward Pinellas Board Work Session March 31, 2017
   B. MPOAC Legislative Update

C. Summary of Public Outreach and Stakeholder Meetings
D. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments
E. Correspondence, Fatalities Map, and Draft PAC Action Sheet
F. Committee Vacancies
G. Other

10. ADJOURNMENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Morroni called the meeting to order at 1:03 P.M. and welcomed those in attendance.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Commissioner Tornga provided the Invocation, and Commissioner Welch led the Pledge of Allegiance; whereupon, at the request of Chairman Morroni, the members introduced themselves.

3. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Keri Melshenker, Skyway Marina District Manager, referred to Agenda Item No. 7C titled *Complete Streets Program Recommendation for Funding* and discussed the anticipated construction of a sidewalk along 34th Street South from 30th Avenue South to 54th Avenue South. She related that her organization has taken steps to implement complete street measures within the district, and that the Skyway Marina District has been working collaboratively with Duke Energy, the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, the Florida Consumer Action Network, and the St. Petersburg Complete Streets Committee to enhance the project and foster economic development; whereupon, Chairman Morroni, Commissioner Welch, and Councilmember Jim Kennedy discussed the importance of the project and positive change it will make to the area.

Tom Nocera, St. Pete Tampa Aerial Transit LLC, related that he appeared before the members at the February meeting requesting an opportunity to conduct a presentation regarding his aerial rapid transit system proposal; and that he has been awaiting an invitation. Mr. Blanton reported that he and Clearwater City Manager Bill Horne have been working to identify an opportunity to have a forum on the topic of aerial transit in Clearwater; that it will likely take place in June or July; and that it will include Forward Pinellas, the County Commission, and the Clearwater City Council, thus allowing Mr. Nocera an opportunity to reach a wider audience; whereupon, following discussion, Mr. Nocera respectfully requested that the process be expedited.

4. CONSENT AGENDA – APPROVED

Chairman Morroni presented the Consent Agenda items as follows:

A. Approval of Minutes of the February 8, 2017 Meeting
B. Approval of Continuity of Operations Plan
C. Approval of Committee Appointments
   - Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
   - Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)
   - Local Coordinating Board (LCB)
   - Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)
D. Quarter 1 Financial Report

Vice-Mayor Jonson moved, seconded by Commissioner Cookie Kennedy and carried, that Consent Agenda Items A through D be approved (Vote 13 - 0).

5. RECOGNITIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

A. Partners in Action Award – City of Clearwater for the Adoption of U.S. 19 Zoning District Development Standards

Mr. Blanton provided information regarding the Partners in Action Award, relating that it will be presented on a periodic basis as a way to recognize local governments and partner agencies for advancing the principles of the Countywide and Long Range Transportation Plans; whereupon, he, Councilmember Caudell, and Vice-Mayor Jonson recognized the City of Clearwater for its outstanding work on the U.S. 19 Zoning District Development Standards, and congratulated City staff members Michael Delk, Gina Clayton, and Lauren Matzke on their achievement.

Mr. Delk thanked the members for their support during the process, and Mr. Blanton related that his office will take suggestions in order to recognize the great work of other cities and partners in the future.

6. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

PINELLAS PLANNING COUNCIL

Regular Countywide Plan Map Amendments

Chairman Morroni indicated that Cases CW 17-2 and CW 17-3, as submitted by the City of Pinellas Park and advertised for public hearing, have been withdrawn and will be heard at the April meeting.

7. PRESENTATION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. PSTA Activities Report

Vice-Mayor Jonson reported that the PSTA Board met on February 22 and made policy decisions as follows:

- Selected Clearwater Jolley Trolley to continue as a provider for the beach and coastal routes. The five-year contract will begin on October 1, 2017. In response to a formal protest lodged by First Transit, PSTA CEO Brad Miller will respond within 15 days of the March 6 receipt date.

- Approved moving forward with a pilot program to purchase two zero-emission electric buses and related charging equipment.

Vice-Mayor Jonson also reported that:

- The PSTA Board welcomed St. Petersburg Citizen Representative Joshua Shulman as a new member, indicating that he replaces former member Ben Diamond. Beach Communities Representative Mark Deighton left the Board, and his replacement will be appointed in the near future.

- Representative Chris Latvala and Senator Jeff Brandes are sponsoring legislation on behalf of PSTA to obtain $1,000,000 for the Clearwater Beach exclusive busway.

- Board members are traveling to Washington, DC, to work with the Federal Transportation Administration regarding Uber Connect and various funding concerns. PSTA continues to advocate for the Central Avenue Corridor Bus Rapid Transit for inclusion in the Fiscal 2019 Federal Budget.

- Three programs are operating during spring break using the Jolley Trolley and the Suncoast Beach Trolley to provide free rides from Downtown Clearwater to Clearwater Beach and from Downtown Dunedin to Florida Auto Exchange Stadium.

- Vice-Mayor Jonson discussed the vital importance of transit for those who depend on the service.

- The next Board meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 29.

B. Transportation Disadvantaged Program Overview

Ms. Caper conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Transportation Disadvantaged Program, March 8, 2017*, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record. She related that the statewide program is through the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged and provides transportation services to individuals who cannot transport themselves; whereupon, she discussed the Pinellas County Transportation Disadvantaged Program, indicating that Forward Pinellas is the designated official planning agency; that the Local Coordinating Board identifies needs and offers guidance for the coordination of services; and that PSTA is responsible for managing coordinated transportation services within Pinellas County.

Ms. Caper referred to a document titled *Tri-County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Subcommittee, Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties, March 2017*, indicating that the members began meeting on a quarterly basis following adoption of the Regional Mobility Needs Assessment in 2014; whereupon, she discussed various aspects of the Pinellas County Transportation Disadvantaged Program, including eligibility requirements, services provided, and ridership statistics.

Ms. Caper referred to a handout titled *Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, 2017 Request: Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Funding Allocations*, relating that despite significant increases in program participation, the funding allocated to PSTA has not kept up with demand; and that PSTA is requesting that the Legislature increase support to urban counties statewide, including Pinellas.

In response to queries by Chairman Morroni and Commissioners Welch and Smith, Ms. Caper discussed the state funding formula, allocation of grants, annual ridership numbers, and bus pass usage; whereupon, PSTA Chief Development Officer Cassandra Borchers indicated that the cost of a regular monthly bus pass is $70; that a subsidized monthly pass is $11; and that PSTA will likely experience a $1,000,000 shortfall on fares this year.

During discussion and in response to comments and queries by Vice-Mayor Jonson and Commissioner Tornga, Ms. Caper discussed the potential number of Transportation Disadvantaged customers served in Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties, indicating that six percent of eligible individuals in Pinellas County participate in the program according to the information provided by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged. Mayor Bradbury remarked that the percentage may actually be higher, and discussed ways to reach out to more people. Ms. Caper related that the majority of eligible individuals will likely be interested in the TD Program; and that enhanced information will be obtained during the Service Plan update; whereupon, she presented information regarding nutritional trips and a one-year pilot program called TD Late Shift, and Mayor Bevis and Mr. Blanton provided input.

C. Complete Streets Program Recommendation for Funding

Mr. Blanton introduced the item, reporting that the Complete Streets Program was initiated last year in order to link land use and transportation in the county; and that Chelsea Favero has been leading the effort to put together the program and move it forward.

Ms. Favero conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Complete Streets Program, 2016 Applications*, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, and related that a Call for Projects took place during October and December 2016; that six applications were received; that the Planners Advisory Committee and Technical Coordinating Committee met during January to conduct reviews; that the PAC and TCC solicited volunteers to sit on a subcommittee to develop a recommendation for funding; that the subcommittee recommendation was endorsed by the TCC; and that Forward Pinellas is making available up to $1,000,000 for construction projects and $100,000 for concept planning; whereupon, she discussed committee and subcommittee recommendations, concept planning and design projects, construction projects slated to be funded, and next steps.

In response to comments and queries by Commissioner Welch, Ms. Favero related that the future sidewalk along 34th Street South will be sited on the west side of the roadway, and Mr. Blanton reported that his office has been working with County staff to integrate a safety and multimodal approach throughout the 22nd Avenue South corridor, and Commissioner Cookie Kennedy provided input; whereupon, Mr. Blanton expressed enthusiasm regarding the Complete Streets Program, indicating that future projects are in the pipeline.

Councilmember Jim Kennedy moved, seconded by Councilmember Caudell and carried unanimously, that up to $1.1 million be approved for the three recommended Complete Streets projects (Vote 13 - 0).

D. Model Ordinance for Waterborne Transportation

Mr. Chatman related that Forward Pinellas, water taxi and ferry operators, and local governments have been working together regarding how to advance waterborne transportation in Pinellas County; and that included in the members' backup materials is a Waterborne Transportation Model Ordinance that emerged from the Waterborne Transportation Technical Forum.

Mr. Chatman conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Waterborne Transportation Model Ordinance, Forward Pinellas Board Meeting, March 8, 2017*, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, and presented the model ordinance timeframe as follows:

Waterborne Transportation Technical Forum	–	November 2016
Working Group Meetings	–	December 2016/January 2017
PAC/TCC Review and Recommendation	–	February 2017
Forward Pinellas Board Endorsement	–	March 2017

Mr. Chatman discussed specific objectives of the ordinance, including:

Provide a framework that protects the public interest while also creating a degree of predictability for local governments and existing and future operators.

Develop standards while recognizing existing regulations and agencies that govern the operation of water taxies and ferries with city marinas, docks, waterways, and parks.

Incorporate enough flexibility and provide commentary to allow for local governments to customize the regulations to local conditions.

Referring to an outline of the ordinance, Mr. Chatman discussed the following sections:

I. Findings
II. Purpose and Intent
III. Definitions
IV. Procedural Requirements
V. Revocation or Suspension of a Permit

VI. Docking, Discharge, and Boarding of Passengers
VII. Location and Parking Requirements
VIII. Signage Requirements
IX. Alcoholic Beverages
X. Boarding of Vessels by Authorized Representatives

Mr. Chatman reported that the waterborne transportation industry continues to grow and evolve in Pinellas County; that the Tampa Bay Ferry & Water Taxi is exploring expanding its services to the City of Treasure Island; that the Clearwater Ferry is working with City of Dunedin staff to establish a new route from Clearwater to Dunedin; and that the Cross Bay Ferry continues to operate from Downtown St. Petersburg to Downtown Tampa; whereupon, he requested authorization to distribute the Model Ordinance for Waterborne Transportation to the coastal communities.

Councilmember Caudell related that as part of Leadership Pinellas 2017 Transportation Day, she rode on the Clearwater Ferry, and discussed monthly ridership, continuous daily service, and similar topics; whereupon, she indicated that all modes of transit should have regular hours of operation and days of service similar to the Clearwater Ferry.

In response to comments and queries by Commissioner Tornga, Mr. Chatman discussed how the Request for Proposal process has been used by current waterborne transportation operators to initiate service, and indicated that future operators will likely do the same; whereupon, he provided information regarding permit process challenges, docking facility considerations, submerged lands lease limitations, parking concerns, and similar topics.

Mr. Blanton stated that his office will assist any community to make the ordinance meet its needs, and Commissioner Cookie Kennedy and Mayor Bradbury provided input.

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Commissioner Eggers left the meeting at 2:18 P.M.

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Mayor Bradbury moved, seconded by Commissioner Cookie Kennedy and carried unanimously, that staff be authorized to distribute the Model Ordinance for Waterborne Transportation (Vote 12 - 0).

E. Knowledge Exchange Series – Microbreweries

Mr. Chatman discussed the Knowledge Exchange Series, relating that he has been telling people of the types of assistance that Forward Pinellas provides to communities and local governments, indicating that in addition to processing land use amendments, his office provides technical assistance; and that similar to the microbrewery study, staff will seek additional opportunities to offer support.

Ms. Parinello conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Microbreweries as Catalysts for Downtown Redevelopment, Forward Pinellas Board Meeting, March 8, 2017*, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record. She related that the State of Florida ranks eleventh in the United States for its number of microbreweries; and that the Tampa Bay region comprises about 30 percent of the microbreweries in the state; whereupon, she referred to a map and pointed out clusters of microbreweries throughout the local area, and discussed trends across the nation.

Ms. Parinello discussed local land use regulations, indicating that communities in Pinellas County treat microbreweries differently within their codes and plans; that Forward Pinellas conducted case studies of local approaches to regulate and incentivize microbreweries; and that her team interviewed municipal planners and brewery owners and reviewed local land development regulations to compile a set of best practices; whereupon, she provided information relating to local economic development benefits and incentives.

Ms. Parinello provided information regarding plan categories that allow microbreweries under the Countywide Rules; whereupon, she related that Forward Pinellas will be working with the Planners Advisory Committee to develop appropriate language for inclusion in the next package of Rule Amendments, discussed resources that are available on the Forward Pinellas website, and played a video showcasing interviews with city planners and brewery owners, and Chairman Morroni and Mr. Blanton provided input.

8. REPORTS/UPDATE

A. Director's Report

1. SPOTlight Update

Mr. Blanton discussed the Gateway Area Master Plan, reporting that he has sent letters to four local governments within the service area requesting contributions in order to begin the project; and that Forward Pinellas will be an equal partner in funding the

initiative; whereupon, he presented an update regarding activities occurring on U.S. 19, relating that the Florida Department of Transportation has been providing assistance to his office and, in response to queries by Vice-Mayor Jonson and Commissioner Tornga, provided information regarding the project, relating that current transit ridership numbers will be reviewed as part of the Gateway Express project; that FDOT is aware of issues regarding overpasses, underpasses, and interchanges; and that potential safety issues will be addressed prior to construction taking place.

2. 2016 Audit Updates

Mr. Blanton reported that his office has received its draft audit report, which is clean and will be presented at the April meeting.

3. Auditor Request for Proposal Status Update

Mr. Blanton indicated that a Request for Proposal was issued for a single auditor to conduct two separate audits of the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Pinellas Planning Council; that the contract is for one year and is renewable for up to two additional one-year periods; that a selection committee comprised of four staff members has studied nine proposals and developed an initial recommendation; that references are currently being checked; and that further information will be presented at the April meeting.

4. USDOT Federal Highway Administration Peer Exchange April 11-12, 2017

Mr. Blanton related that he, Chairman Morroni, and three local community members have been invited to St. Louis, Missouri, by FDOT to view regional transportation improvements that have been made to the Interstate 64 corridor; and that because the trip will take place concurrent with the April meeting, Vice-Chairman Caudell and Ms. Ward will serve as Chairman and Executive Director, respectively.

5. FDOT Community Working Group

Mr. Blanton discussed the TBX Reset, reporting that FDOT is taking a second look at the Tampa Bay Express project; that community working groups are being developed as part of the initiative; that a group is being formed in Pinellas County; that FDOT has requested 25-35 names of local citizens to represent neighborhoods, businesses, local governments, and technical staff; that the first meeting will likely take place in April; and that discussion will focus on transit, managed lanes, and multimodal strategies.

B. Preliminary Budget Fiscal Year 2017-2018

Mr. Blanton provided information regarding the preliminary budget, relating that he is building in a five-percent assumed increase in property tax revenues and a three-percent adjustment for employee salaries; that anticipated staff retirements and rising healthcare costs will each have an effect on the budget; and that because his office is in good financial shape, he is recommending that the millage rate remain steady; whereupon, he discussed funding for the Complete Streets Program and Technical Assistance Grants, and reported that he will provide the members an MPO budget, a PPC budget, and a combined budget. In response to queries by Chairman Morroni, Mr. Blanton presented information regarding proposed tax revenues, reserve accounts, and the unassigned fund balance; whereupon, he reminded the members that the budget is preliminary; and that a final vote will likely take place in June.

C. Major Projects Update

Mr. Blanton related that Forward Pinellas staff met with FDOT in February and were provided with status updates of various U.S. 19 projects, the Gateway Expressway, and other planning studies and operational improvements identified on state roads in Pinellas County; and that the information has been included in the members' backup materials.

D. Transportation Management Area (TMA) Federal Certification

Mr. Blanton indicated that federal law requires a certification review every four years of the planning process for MPOs located in Transportation Management Areas; and that the quadrennial certification review is conducted by a team that includes staff from the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, and the Florida Department of Transportation. He related that the site visit will occur on March 29 and 30; and that the public meeting will be held in the Forward Pinellas Office Building First Floor Conference Room, 310 Court Street, on March 29 at 5:30 P.M., and Councilmember Caudell requested that staff send an electronic invitation to the members.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Information about the following items was included in the agenda materials, and the items were not addressed at the meeting unless so noted:

A. Forward Pinellas Board Work Session March 31, 2017

Mr. Blanton reported that the Board Work Session will be held at St. Petersburg College Clearwater Campus, 2465 Drew Street, Room ES 104, on March 31 from 9:00 A.M. until noon, and provided information regarding topics of discussion. In response to query by Chairman Morroni, Mr. Blanton agreed to send each of the members an email reminder and a map of the college campus.

B. Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council (MPOAC) Legislative Update

Mr. Blanton reported that the American Planning Association Legislative Update had not been received in time to be included in the agenda packet, but has been included in the Board's backup folder of materials. He referenced a Senate bill recently filed by Senator Jack Latvala that would reorganize the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA), changing one of the words in its name from *Transportatio*n Authority to *Transit* Authority, making its focus the development of regional transit within the four county area of Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, and Manatee Counties, and requiring that it develop a Regional Transit Development Plan (TDP). He indicated that while he is supportive of the TDP requirement, it is unclear if it would replace the current TDP requirements of PSTA and the other transit agencies.

Mr. Blanton discussed concerns he has with the proposed bill, including that (1) it does not assign area MPOs a role in the development or carrying out of the Regional TDP, which would seem to separate transit planning and project development from the MPO process; (2) it mandates that TBARTA assess its committee structure, which might do away with the MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee that ensures the Regional TDP is consistent and coordinated with Long Range Transportation Plans and Transportation Improvement Programs in the four counties; (3) it is unclear how the new TBARTA would relate to the TMA Leadership Group; (4) it does not provide TBARTA with additional funding; and (5) large cities such as Tampa and St. Petersburg would have no direct representation.

Councilmember Caudell expressed concern that if the MPOs are regionalized, current federal and state funding would shrink; whereupon, Mr. Blanton indicated that no bills have yet been filed regarding merging the MPOs.

* * * *

Commissioner Eggers returned to the meeting at 3:10 P.M.

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Commissioner Morroni stated that if the Forward Pinellas Board does not like the bill, it needs to send that message as soon as possible; whereupon, Mr. Blanton related that he has already requested a meeting with Senator Latvala.

Commissioner Morroni recommended that the Board form a legislative committee, and Commissioner Cookie Kennedy and Councilmember Caudell concurred. Mr. Blanton cautioned that federal or state funds cannot be used for lobbying purposes, and Councilmember Caudell suggested that the PPC side of Forward Pinellas hire a government affairs person. Mr. Blanton clarified that the Board members, as elected officials, could form a committee, which would be governed by the Sunshine Law, but as an organization, staff could not be involved in lobbying. Mayor Bevis related that he is on the PSTA Legislative Committee; and that the PSTA lobbyists have been very helpful, and discussion ensued with Councilmember Jim Kennedy suggesting coordinating lobbying activities with the cities; whereupon, citing budget restrictions, Mr. Blanton expressed concern about hiring a lobbyist, and suggested working with the PSTA, the County, and other organizations that have lobbyists.

C. Summary of Public Outreach and Stakeholder Meetings

D. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments

E. Correspondence, Fatalities Map, and Draft PAC Action Sheet

F. Committee Vacancies

G. Other – None

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:13 P.M.

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Chairman

April 12, 2017

4B. Approval of Committee Appointments

SUMMARY

- **Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) has requested that Jacob Labutka serve as the BPAC primary representative for PSTA with Bonnie Epstein as an alternate.

- **Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)**

The City of St. Petersburg requests that two changes be made to its representation on the Technical Coordinating Committee for Forward Pinellas. It is requested that Luis Teba serve as the alternate for the Planning and Economic Development Department. Luis, who works as a Planner II in the Urban Planning and Historic Preservation Division of the Planning Department, has a strong interest in transportation planning. Luis would replace Rick MacAulay, who has retired from the City.

Additionally, it is requested that Lucas Cruse serve as the alternate for the Transportation and Parking Management Department. Lucas is the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator and serves on the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee for Forward Pinellas. Lucas has experience in both transportation planning and land use planning, and will provide valuable input to the TCC when Cheryl Stacks is not able to attend.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- BPAC Membership Listing
- TCC Membership Listing

ACTION: Board, in its role as the metropolitan planning organization, to approve the committee appointments as outlined above

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the board approve Jacob Labutka as BPAC primary representative for PSTA and Bonnie Epstein as alternate. Additionally, staff recommends the board approve Luis Teba and Lucas Cruse as TCC alternate representatives for St. Petersburg.

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP LIST

Voting

St. Petersburg Area (St. Pete/Gulfport/So Pasadena/Tierra Verde)

1. Karen Gates (03/08/17)
2. Kimberly Cooper (10/13/99)
3. Vacant (01/01/17)

Clearwater Area

4. Chip Haynes (04/13/11)
5. Robert Yunk (02/09/05)
6. Win Dermody (03/12/14)

Dunedin Area

7. Charles Martin (04/08/09)

Pinellas Park and Mid-County

8. Ronald Rasmussen (12/13/06)
9. Byron Virgil Hall, Jr., (12/13/06)

Largo Area

10. Daniel Alejandro (10/12/16)
11. Georgia Wildrick (08/16/06)

North County Area (Tarpon Springs/Palm Harbor/Ozona/Oldsmar/Safety Harbor)

12. Tom Ferraro (04/09/03)
13. Becky Afonso (Vice Chair) (10/08/14)

At Large Area

14. Paul Kurtz (12/11/13)
15. Mike Siebel (03/14/12)
16. Brian Smith (Chairman) (12/12/12)
17. Lynn Bosco (11/14/12)
18. Steve Lasky (11/14/12)
19. Ed Hawkes (11/18/98)
20. Annette Sala (03/12/14)

Seminole Area

21. Jim Wedlake (05/12/10)

Beach Communities

22. Bert Valery (10/1983-10/1998) (reappointed 07/10/02)
23. Jim Parent (04/13/16)

Technical Support

1. County Traffic Department (Tom Washburn – representative, Gina Harvey and Casey Morse – alternates)
2. County Parks and Conservation Resources (Lyle Fowler – representative, Spencer Curtis – alternate)
3. PSTA (Jacob Labutka – representative; Bonnie Epstein – alternate)
4. City of Clearwater (**Vacant**)
5. City of St. Petersburg (Lucas Cruse as representative and Cheryl Stacks as alternate)
6. City of Largo (Valerie Brookens as representative and Christine McLachlan as alternate)
7. Pinellas County School System (Tom McGinty - representative)
8. TBARTA (Anthony Matonti -representative; Michael Case 1st alternate and Ramond Chiarmonte 2nd alternate)
9. Pinellas County Health Department (Megan Carmichael - representative)
10. CUTR (Julie Bond as representative)
11. Sunstar Paramedics (**Vacant** - representative, Community Outreach Coordinator)

Sheriff's Office /Police/Law Enforcement Representatives

1. Pinellas Park Police Dept.
2. St Petersburg Police Dept.
3. Largo Police Dept.
4. Sheriff's Office – Deputy Eric Gibson
5. Clearwater Police Dept.

Non-Voting Technical Support

(Chris Speese – FDOT)

*Dates signify appointment

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MEMBERSHIP LIST

Pinellas County Public Works (Traffic)
Ken Jacobs
Alternates: Tom Washburn & Gina Harvey

Pinellas County Public Works (Eng.)
Brent Hall
Alternate: Greg Cutrone

Pinellas County Planning
Caroline Lanford
Alternate: Scott Swearengen

Pinellas County Environmental Mgmt.
Ajaya Satyal
Alternate: Vacant

Pinellas County School Board
Mike Burke
Alternate: Vacant

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
Heather Sobush (Vice Chair) Alternate:
Christopher Cochran

Department of Environmental Protection
Vacant

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Avera Wynne
Alternate: Vacant

TBARTA
Anthony Matonti
Alternates: Michael Case/Ray Chiaramonte

Beach Communities
Vacant

Clearwater Planning Department
Zain Adam
Alternate: Lauren Matzke

Clearwater Engineering
Bennett Elbo
Alternate: Himanshu Patni

Clearwater Traffic Operations
Paul Bertels
Alternate: Cory Martens

Dunedin Planning
Lucy Fuller
Alternate: Greg Rice

Dunedin Traffic Engineering
Joan Rice (Chair)
Alternate: Jorge Quintas, PE

Gulfport
Mike Taylor
Alternate: Fred Metcalf

Indian Rocks Beach
Hetty Harmon Alternate: Vacant

Largo Community Development
Frances Leong
Alternate: Robert Klute

Largo Community Development – Engineering
Rafal Cieslak
Alternate: Chuck Mura

Oldsmar
Marie Dauphinais
Alternate: Michele Parisano

Pinellas Park Planning Department
Danny Taylor
Alternate: Kathy Gademer

Pinellas Pk. Storm Water & Transportation
Brent Perkey
Alternate: David Chase

Safety Harbor
Michael Schoderbock
Alternate: Marcie Stenmark

St. Petersburg/Clearwater Int'l Airport
Vacant

St. Petersburg Engineer & Capital Improve Dept.
Tim Funderburk
Alternate: Mike Frederick

St. Petersburg Plan &Econo. Develop. Dept.
Tom Whalen
Alternate: Luis Teba

St. Petersburg Transport. & Parking Mgmt. Dept.
Cheryl Stacks
Alternate: Lucas Cruse

St. Pete Beach
Vacant
Alternate: Chelsey Welden

Seminole
Mark Ely
Alternate: Jan Norsoph

Tarpon Springs Planning
Vacant
Alternate: Heather Urwiller

Treasure Island
Bob Bray

FDOT (technical support)
Brian Beaty

April 12, 2017

4C. Contract with Cherry Bekaert for Auditing Services

SUMMARY

At the February Forward Pinellas Board meeting, the board authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Audit Services. On February 8, the RFP was released on the Forward Pinellas website and, with assistance from Pinellas County Purchasing Department, on Demandstar. Firms were able to ask questions by February 14, 2017 and answers to all questions were provided online by February 17, 2017. Completed proposals were due on February 24, 2017. Nine proposals were received.

A selection committee composed of Joann Jacobs, Accounting Services Coordinator; Sarah Caper, Principal Planner; Rebecca Stysly, Accounting Services Coordinator; and Sarah Ward, Planning Division Manager met on March 8, 2017. At the conclusion of the meeting, the firm with the highest score was Cherry Bekaert. The chart below lists the proposing firms and their scores.

Firm	Total Score
Barbara Clark	255.5
Baylis & Company	235.5
Cherry Bekaert	309
Clifton Larson Allen	301
CS&L	229.5
EFPR Group	238.5
Mauldin & Jenkins	263
Moore Stephens Lovelace	279.5
Sinn & Co	238.5

Utilizing the draft agreement that was included with the RFP, staff has worked with Cherry Bekaert to complete an agreement for audit services for both the MPO and the PPC for the current fiscal year which ends September 30, 2017.

ATTACHMENT(S): Agreement with Cherry Bekaert

ACTION: Board to approve agreement with Cherry Bekaert for auditing services

AGREEMENT FOR AUDIT SERVICES FOR MPO AND PPC

BETWEEN FORWARD PINELLAS AND CHERRY BEKAERT LLP

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into the _____day of _____2017 between **FORWARD PINELLAS,** in its role as the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC), and Cherry Bekaert LLP (hereinafter referred to as "Auditor"), collectively referred to as the "Parties."

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Forward Pinellas wishes to engage the services of an auditor to audit the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) and Pinellas Planning Council's (PPC) financial statements for one (1) year with two (2) one (1) year options for renewal; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Audit Services, the Auditor was selected to perform such services; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor has stated that it is qualified to perform a yearly audit of the MPO and PPC's financial statements pursuant to the RFP for Audit Services and the terms stated herein; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the parties to reduce their mutual agreements to writing.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual performance of the covenants and promises contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. INCORPORATION OF RECITALS AND RFP

The above recitals and the corresponding RFP are hereby adopted and incorporated herein.

2. SCOPE OF SERVICES

A. The Auditor shall audit the financial statements of the MPO and PPC for the period beginning October 1, 2016 and ending September 30, 2017. The Parties shall have two (2) one (1) year options for renewal to contract for the auditing services of the period beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018, and the period beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019.

B. The scope of the audits include all financial records and transactions of the MPO and PPC for the purposes of expressing audit opinions of their financial statements, including all services as referenced in Exhibit A.

C. It is agreed that the engagement shall include a review of the accounting control structure and of compliance with budgetary and legal requirements of the MPO and PPC.

D. The Auditor shall complete both audits by March 31, 2018.

E. The Auditor shall formally present its findings and recommendations to the Forward Pinellas Board upon completion of the audits.

F. The Auditor shall coordinate with the Forward Pinellas Executive Director for the purpose of arranging an "Exit Conference" at the conclusion of the aforesaid audits for the operations under the MPO and PPC. Draft copies of the audit reports and related

management letters shall be made available by the Auditor to the Forward Pinellas Executive Director for inspection prior to said audit exit conference meetings.

G. In order to properly serve the public interest, if the Auditors, in the course of their audits, shall discover evidence purporting to nonfeasance, misfeasance or malfeasance on the part of an officer or employee of Forward Pinellas, said Auditor will immediately give written notice to the Forward Pinellas Chair.

H. The Auditor shall conduct the audits in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing standards applicable to the MPO and PPC as prescribed in the following non-exclusive list of documents:
   i. Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, 31 U.S.C. section 7501 et. Seq.,
   ii. OMB Circular A-133 [49 CFR 18.26], "Audits of State, Local Government, and Non-Profit Organizations",
   iii. Section 215.97, F.S. "Florida Single Audit Act"
   iv. Rules 10.550 and 10.650, "Rules of the Auditor General"
   v. Section 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F "Audit Requirements"
   vi. Chapter 2012-245 Laws of Florida, as amended

3. TERM

This Agreement shall be effective upon proper execution by both Parties and shall remain in effect for twelve months thereafter, or until the scope of services is complete, whichever is earlier. The Parties shall have two (2) one (1) year options for renewal for the periods referenced in the Scope of Services, subject to the mutual written agreement of the Parties. The Auditor shall not assign or otherwise dispose of, without first obtaining the written consent of Forward Pinellas, the services to be performed pursuant to this Agreement.

4. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. The Auditor shall submit to Forward Pinellas written reports of the MPO and PPC audits. The reports shall contain expressions of opinion that the financial statements are fairly stated or, if a qualified or adverse or disclaimer of opinion is necessary, the reasons therefore.

B. If reportable conditions or material weaknesses are noted in the control structure or other observed management weaknesses or variance from compliance requirements as specified in the scope of services, a written report (management letter) will be issued identifying such weaknesses or noncompliance. The letter shall include written responses by governmental officials to the Auditor's observations.

C. The Auditor shall furnish one electronic and 14 bound copies of the report to Forward Pinellas, which shall include a copy to the Executive Director and each member of the Forward Pinellas Board.

D. The Auditor, on a timely basis convenient to Forward Pinellas staff, shall provide a draft of the financial reports for review with Forward Pinellas by the last business day of December, and shall issue the final reports by March 31 of each calendar year of the Agreement.

5. FORWARD PINELLAS ASSISTANCE

Forward Pinellas shall provide office space and internet access deemed adequate by the Auditor to efficiently conduct the audit, along with reserved parking spaces. Access to phones, printers, copiers and other such equipment will not be provided. The Forward Pinellas staff shall also provide and promptly respond to requests for all records necessary for the Auditor to expeditiously conduct the audit engagement. Forward Pinellas shall also prepare accounting schedules required by the Auditor.

6. COMPENSATION

In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the provisions of this Agreement, Forward Pinellas shall compensate the Auditor based on the maximum fee schedule set forth below:

FISCAL YEAR	MAXIMUM FEE
2016/17	$33,900
2017/18	$34,800
2018/19	$35,900

Interim progress billings may be submitted for services rendered to date, but not more often than monthly, upon submission of a statement of all services itemized sufficiently to enable Forward Pinellas to identify the costs.

7. RECORDS

The Auditor will keep adequate records and supporting documentation applicable to this contractual matter including audit work papers and records of time worked. Said records and documentation will be retained by the Auditor for a minimum of five (5) years from the end of the fiscal year to which it applies. Forward Pinellas and its authorized agent shall have the right to review, inspect, and copy all such records and documentation as often as it deems necessary during the record retention period stated above; provided, however, such activity shall be conducted only during normal business hours. Forward Pinellas, during the period of time expressed by the preceding sentence, shall also have the right to obtain a copy of and otherwise inspect the record and documentation applicable to any audit of MPO and PPC records made at the direction of the Auditor.

8. REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS

The Auditor shall obtain, execute, and comply with the following certifications:

A. Insurance. The Auditor shall obtain adequate insurance and provide a certificate of said insurance pursuant to Exhibit B.

B. Truth-In-Negotiation and Public Entity Crimes Certification. The Auditor agrees to execute the Truth-in-Negotiations Certificate as required by Section 11.45, Florida Statutes, attached to this Agreement as Exhibit C, as well as a Public Entity Crimes Certificate, as required by Section 287.133(3) (a), Florida Statutes, and attached to this Agreement as Exhibit D. The original Agreement price and any additions thereto shall be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which Forward Pinellas determines the Agreement price was increased due to inaccurate or incomplete factual unit costs. All such Agreement adjustments shall be made within one (1) year following the end of the Agreement.

C. Lobbying. In connection with this Agreement, the Auditor is required to complete Exhibit E" Certification Regarding Lobbying."

D. Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters**.** In connection with this agreement, the Auditor is required to complete Exhibit F "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters – Primary Covered Transactions."

9. INDEMNIFICATION

The Auditor shall indemnify, pay the cost of defense, including attorney's fees, and hold harmless Forward Pinellas from all suits, actions, or claims of any character brought on account of any injuries or damages received or sustained by any person, persons, or property by, or in consequence of any neglect in safeguarding the work; or by or on account of any act or omission, neglect, or misconduct of said Auditor; or by, or on account of any claim or amounts recovered under the "Workers' Compensation Law" or a law, bylaws, ordinance, order, or decree, except only such injury or damage as shall be occasioned by the sole negligence of Forward Pinellas.

10. OFFICIAL NOTICE

All notices required by law and by this Agreement to be given by one party to the other shall be in writing and sent to the following addresses, unless and until the Auditor is notified otherwise in writing:

Forward Pinellas
Whit Blanton, Executive Director
310 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756

All official notices to Forward Pinellas shall be sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, unless and until the Auditor is notified otherwise in writing. All official notices given to the Auditor hereunder shall be forwarded to the Auditor at the following address:

Cherry Bekaert
Scott Anderson, Director
401 E. Jackson Street
Suite 1200
Tampa, Florida 33602

11. FISCAL FUNDING

Forward Pinellas, in both its roles as the MPO and PPC, is a bona fide agency of the State of Florida with its fiscal year ending on September 30 of each calendar. If Forward Pinellas does not appropriate sufficient funds to continue making the payments required under this Agreement or any of its Agreements for any fiscal year subsequent to the one in which this Agreement is executed and entered into, then this Agreement shall be terminated effective upon expiration of the fiscal year in which sufficient funds were last appropriated. In this event, Forward Pinellas shall not be obligated to make any further payments due beyond said fiscal year.

12. DEFAULT AND TERMINATION

If the Auditor fails to keep or perform any of the terms, covenants, conditions or provisions in this Agreement that the Auditor is required to keep or perform, then within fifteen (15) days of Forward Pinellas becoming aware of the default, Forward Pinellas shall notify the Auditor of the default and demand the default to be cured. Upon receipt of said notice, the Auditor shall have fifteen (15) days from the date of the receipt to cure said default. Forward Pinellas shall have the right to temporarily withhold payment pending correction of any identified deficiencies or disallow funding for all or part of an activity not in compliance with this Agreement. All defaults shall be cured at the sole cost of the Auditor.

Upon the Auditor's failure to cure such default, Forward Pinellas may terminate this Agreement and may seek any and all such other remedies available in law or equity. Should Forward Pinellas need to pursue any available remedies as a result of the Auditor's default, Forward Pinellas shall be entitled to recover damages, including costs and attorneys' fees. Failure to elect any of the available remedies upon the occurrence of any default shall not operate as a waiver of any further election of remedies.

13. TITLE VI AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

Forward Pinellas and its subcontractors will not discriminate on any basis, as required by 49 USC 5332 (which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex or age in employment or business opportunity), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 USC 2000d through 2000d-4, and Title 49 CFR, Part 21.

Forward Pinellas ensures, in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 that certified Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Disadvantaged Enterprise Program (DBE) participants have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in FDOT assisted contracts.

14. PROHIBITION AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES

The Auditor warrants that they have not employed or retained any company or person other than a bona fide employee working solely for the Auditor to solicit or secure this Agreement and that the Auditor has not paid or agreed to pay any person, company, corporation, individual, or firm other than a bona fide employee working for the Auditor any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or any other consideration, contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Agreement.

15. OBSERVANCE OF LAWS

The Auditor agrees to observe, comply with and execute promptly at its expense during the term hereof, all laws, rules, requirements, orders, directives, codes, ordinances and regulations of any and all governmental authorities or agencies, of all municipal departments, bureaus, boards and officials, of all County, State, and Federal boards and agencies, and of insurance carriers.

The Auditor specifically acknowledges that it is responsible for complying with the provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, located at 8 U.S.C. Section 1324, et. seq, and regulations relating thereto. Failure to comply with this provision of this Agreement shall be considered a material breach and shall be grounds for immediate termination of the Agreement.

In the event that the laws requiring this audit to be performed are amended or repealed, this Agreement may be amended to the extent required by such change in law and, in the event of repeal, the Agreement may be cancelled at the discretion of Forward Pinellas.

If a dispute arises regarding this Agreement, the Laws of Florida shall govern. Proper venue shall be in Pinellas County, Florida.

16. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES

Nothing contained in this Agreement is intended to, or will be construed in any manner to, create or establish the relationship of employer/employee between the Parties. The Auditor will at all times be an independent contractor under the terms of this Agreement, and it is not acting as an employee of Forward Pinellas.

17. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, the remainder of this Agreement will not be affected thereby, and all other parts of this Agreement will remain in full force and effect.

18. WAIVER

Waiver of one or more covenants or conditions of this Agreement by Forward Pinellas shall not be construed as a waiver of a subsequent breach of the same covenant or conditions, and the consent or approval by Forward Pinellas to or of any act by the Auditor requiring Forward Pinellas' consent or approval shall not be construed as consent or approval to or of any subsequent similar act by the Auditor.

19. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement represents, together with all Exhibits and the corresponding RFP, the entire written Agreement between Forward Pinellas and supersedes all prior communications and proposals, whether electronic, oral, or written between Forward Pinellas and the Auditor with respect to this Agreement. This Agreement may be amended only by written instrument signed by both Forward Pinellas and the Auditor.

20. REPRESENTATION AUTHORITY OF PARTIES/SIGNATORIES

Each person signing this Agreement represents and warrants that he or she is duly authorized and has legal capacity to execute and deliver this Agreement. Each party represents and warrants that the execution and delivery of the Agreement and the performance of such party's obligations hereunder have been duly authorized and that the Agreement is a valid and legal agreement binding on such party and enforceable in accordance with its terms.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement the day and year first above written.

AUDITOR	**FORWARD PINELLAS**
By:_____	By: _____
Print Name: _____	Print Name:_____
Title:_____	Title: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____
ATTEST:	ATTEST:
By: _____	By: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: _____

Office of the County Attorney

EXHIBIT "A"

LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT

Cherry Bekaert LLP
CPAs & Advisors

April 3, 2017

Board of Directors
Attention: Whit Blanton, Executive Director
Forward Pinellas
310 Court Street, 2nd Floor
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Mr. Blanton:

This engagement letter between Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization and Pinellas Planning Council (hereafter referred to as the "MPO and PPC", respectively) and Cherry Bekaert LLP (the "Firm" or "Cherry Bekaert") sets forth the nature and scope of the services we will provide, the MPO and PPC's required involvement and assistance in support of our services, the related fee arrangements and other Terms and Conditions, which are attached hereto and incorporated by reference, designed to facilitate the performance of our professional services and to achieve the mutually agreed upon objectives of the MPO and PPC.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

We will provide the following services to the MPO and PPC as of and for the year ended September 30, 2017:

Audit services

1. We will audit the basic financial statements of the MPO as of and for the year ended September 30, 2017 including the governmental activities and each major fund and the remaining fund information.
2. We will audit the basic financial statements of the PPC as of and for the year ended September 30, 2017 including the governmental activities and each major fund and the remaining fund information.
3. We will audit the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance included in the MPO's financial statements. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or the financial statements themselves.
4. We will apply limited procedures to the required supplementary information (e.g., budgetary comparison schedules and pension plan information included in the PPC's financial statements or management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) included in the financial statements for both the PPC and MPO) which will consist of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the financial statements.
5. We will examine the MPO's and PPC's compliance with the requirements of Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, during the year ended September 30, 2017. Our examination will be conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Accordingly, it will include tests of your records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express an opinion as to whether the MPO and PPC complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements.

Accounting and other services

We will provide the following additional services:

1. Assist in the preparation of the financial statements and footnotes.
2. Complete the appropriate sections of and sign the Data Collection Form.

YOUR EXPECTATIONS

Our services plan, which includes our audit plan, is designed to provide a foundation for an effective, efficient, and quality-focused approach to accomplish the engagement objectives and meet or exceed your expectations. Our service plan will be reviewed with you periodically and will serve as a benchmark against which you will be able to measure our performance. Any additional services that you may request, and that we agree to provide, will be the subject of separate written arrangements.

The MPO and PPC recognizes that our professional standards require that we be independent from you in our audit of your financial statements and our accompanying report in order to ensure that our objectivity and professional skepticism have not been compromised. As a result, we cannot enter into a fiduciary relationship with you and you should not expect that we will act only with due regard to your interest in the performance of this audit and you should not impose on us special confidence that we will conduct this audit with only your interest in mind. Because of our obligation to be independent of you, no fiduciary relationship will be created by this engagement or audit of your financial statements.

The engagement will be led by Scott Anderson, who will be responsible for assuring the overall quality, value, and timeliness of the services provided to you.

AUDIT SERVICES

The objective of our audit is the expression of opinions as to whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the additional information referred to in the Summary of Services section when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The objective also includes reporting on:

- Internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements and grants, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards.*

- Internal control related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with laws, regulations and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards ("Uniform Guidance")* and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida.

The reports on internal control and compliance will each include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe (1) the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, (2) the scope of testing internal control over compliance for major programs and major program compliance and the result of that testing and to provide an opinion on compliance but not to

provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance, and (3) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance and with Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, OMB *Guidance for Grants and Agreements* (2 CFR 200), and *Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida* in considering internal control over compliance and major program compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; OMB *Guidance for Grants and Agreements* (2 CFR 200) and *Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida*, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major programs in accordance with OMB *Guidance for Grants and Agreements* (2 CFR 200), and other procedures as deemed necessary to enable us to express such opinions and to render the required reports. If any of our opinions resulting from the procedures described above are other than unmodified, we will fully discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue a report as a result of this engagement.

ACCOUNTING AND OTHER SERVICES

Accounting services

We will advise Management about the application of appropriate accounting principles, and may propose adjusting journal entries to the MPO and PPC's financial statements. Management is responsible for reviewing the entries and understanding the nature of any proposed entries and the impact they have on the MPO and PPC's financial statements. If, while reviewing the journal entries, Management determines that a journal entry is inappropriate, it will be Management's responsibility to contact us to correct it.

Financial statement preparation

We will assist in the preparation of the MPO and PPC's financial statements and notes, based on information in the MPO and PPC's accounting records. However, the responsibility for the MPO and PPC's financial statements and notes remains with Management. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining adequate records and effective internal controls over financial reporting, the selection and application of accounting principles, the safeguarding of assets, and adjusting the financial statements for any material misstatements as well as reviewing and approving for publication the draft financial statements prepared with our assistance.

Data Collection Form

We will complete the appropriate sections of and sign the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. We will provide copies of our reports to the MPO and PPC; however, it is management's responsibility to submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditor's reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the designated federal audit clearinghouse and, if appropriate, to pass-through entities. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 days after receipt of the auditor's reports or nine months after the end of the audit period.

Management's responsibilities related to accounting and other services

For all nonattest services we perform in connection with the engagement, you are responsible for designating a competent employee to oversee the services, make any management decisions, perform any management functions related to the services, evaluate the adequacy of the services, and accept overall responsibility for the results of the services.

Prior to the release of the report, Management will need to sign a representation letter acknowledging your responsibility for the results of these services.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO THE AUDIT

Management is responsible for the fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with GAAP, including the appropriate basis of accounting is applied by all component units, if applicable, for making all financial records and related information available to us, for ensuring that all material information is disclosed to us, and for identifying and ensuring that the MPO and PPC complies with the laws and regulations applicable to its activities and with the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

Management is responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with GAAP. Management agrees to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. Management also agrees to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon or make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon.

Management is also responsible for adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements, informing us of events that occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date until the date of the auditors' report that might affect the financial statements or related disclosures and informing us of any discovery of facts related to items that existed at the financial statement date that might affect the financial statements or related disclosures.

Management is responsible for informing us of its views regarding the risk of fraud at the MPO and PPC. Management must inform us of their knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the MPO and PPC received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others. Additionally, Management must inform us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the MPO and PPC involving (a) Management, (b) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (c) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Management is responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls over financial reporting and to prevent and detect fraud. Appropriate supervisory review procedures are necessary to provide reasonable assurance that adopted policies and prescribed procedures are adhered to and to identify errors and fraud or illegal acts. As a part of our audit, we will consider the MPO and PPC's internal control structure, as required by GAAS, sufficient to plan the audit and to determine the nature, timing, and extent of auditing procedures necessary for expressing our opinion concerning the financial statements. An audit is not designed to provide any assurance on internal controls. As part of our consideration of the MPO and PPC's internal control structure, we will inform you of matters that come to our attention that represent significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in the design or operation of the internal control structure.

Management is responsible for establishment and maintenance of a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying to us previous audits or other engagements or studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits or other engagements or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, and the timing and format related thereto.

At the conclusion of the engagement, Management will provide to us a representation letter that, among other things, addresses (1) Management's responsibilities related to the audit and confirms certain representations made to us during the audit, including, Management's acknowledgement of its responsibility for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud; (2) Management's responsibilities related to the monitoring of internal control over financial reporting; and (3) Management's knowledge, directly or from allegations by others, of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the MPO and PPC. The representation letter will also affirm to us that Management believes that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements, if any, pertaining to the financial statements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole. The Firm will rely on Management providing these representations to us, both in the planning and performance of the audit.

FEES

The estimated fee contemplates only the services described in the Summary of Services section of this letter. If Management requests additional services not listed above, we will provide an estimate of those fees prior to commencing additional work.

The following summarizes the fees for the services described above:

Description of Services	**Estimated Fee**
MPO - Audit services	
Audit of the financial statements	
Federal and State Single Audit	
Examination of compliance with Section 218.415, FL Statutes	
Accounting services	
Financial statement preparation	
Assistance with certain sections of the Data Collection Form	
	$ 19,000
PPC - Audit services	
Audit of the financial statements	
Examination of compliance with Section 218.415, FL Statutes	
Accounting services	
Financial statement preparation	
	14,900
Total	$ 33,900

The fees will be billed periodically. Invoices are due on presentation. A service charge will be added to past due accounts equal to 1-1/2% per month (18% annually) on the previous month's balance less payments received during the month, with a minimum charge of $2.00 per month.

If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding, please sign a copy of this letter in the space provided and return it to us. If you have any questions, please call Scott Anderson at 813.251.1010.

Sincerely,

CHERRY BEKAERT LLP

Cherry Bekaert LLP

ATTACHMENT – Engagement Letter Terms and Conditions

Forward Pinellas

ACCEPTED BY: _____

TITLE: _____ DATE: _____

Cherry Bekaert LLP
Engagement Letter Terms and Conditions

The following terms and conditions are an integral part of the attached engagement letter and should be read in their entirety in conjunction with your review of the letter.

LIMITATIONS OF THE AUDIT REPORT

Should the MPO and PPC wish to include, publish or otherwise reproduce the financial statements and our report thereon at a date subsequent to their original issuance, such as for inclusion in a bond offering, prospectus or similar document, our firm is presumed not to be associated with such document and we have no obligation to perform any procedures with respect to such document. In addition, you agree to include in the offering statement the following language: "Cherry Bekaert LLP, our independent auditor, has not been engaged to perform and has not performed, since the date of its report included herein, any procedures on the financial statements addressed in that report. Cherry Bekaert also has not performed any procedures relating to this official statement."

If, however, management takes certain actions, such as requesting a written consent from us prior to including our audit report in such an offering statement, our firm then becomes associated with the offering and in accordance with professional standards, we will be required to perform certain limited procedures with respect to unaudited information contained in the document. These procedures will be subject to separate written arrangements and fees. The MPO and PPC is not required to provide notice to, or seek the permission of, Cherry Bekaert related to the use of the MPO and PPC's financial statements and the report thereon for its normal business disclosures.

LIMITATIONS OF THE AUDIT PROCESS

In conducting the audit, we will perform tests of the accounting records and such other procedures as we consider necessary in the circumstances to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion on the financial statements. We also will assess the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by Management, as well as evaluate the overall financial statement presentation.

Our audit will include procedures designed to obtain reasonable assurance of detecting misstatements due to errors or fraud that are material to the financial statements. Absolute assurance is not attainable because of the nature of audit evidence and the characteristics of fraud. For example, audits performed in accordance with GAAS are based on the concept of selective testing of the data being examined and are, therefore, subject to the limitation that material misstatements due to errors or fraud, if they exist, may not be detected. Also, an audit is not designed to detect matters that are immaterial to the financial statements. In addition, an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS does not include procedures specifically designed to detect illegal acts having an indirect effect (e.g., violations of fraud and abuse statutes that result in fines or penalties being imposed on the MPO and PPC) on the financial statements.

Similarly, in performing our audit we will be aware of the possibility that illegal acts may have occurred. However, it should be recognized that our audit provides no assurance that illegal acts generally will be detected, and only reasonable assurance that illegal acts having a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts will be detected. We will inform you with respect to errors and fraud, or illegal acts that come to our attention during the course of our audit unless clearly inconsequential. In the event that we have to consult with the MPO and PPC's counsel or counsel of our choosing regarding any illegal acts we identify, additional fees incurred may be billed to the MPO and PPC. You agree to cooperate fully with any procedures we deem necessary to perform with respect to these matters.

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the MPO and PPC's financial statements. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit, or are unable to form, or have not formed an opinion on the financial statements, we may decline to express an opinion or decline to issue a report as a result

of the engagement. We will notify the appropriate party within your organization of our decision and discuss the reasons supporting our position.

AUDIT PROCEDURES – GENERAL

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve professional judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the MPO and PPC or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the MPO and PPC. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements or noncompliance may exist and not be detected by us. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or major programs. However, we will inform you of any material errors and fraud, or illegal acts that come to our attention during the course of our audit. We will also inform you of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, creditors and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will also require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

AUDIT PROCEDURES – INTERNAL CONTROLS

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the MPO and PPC and its environment, including internal controls, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing and extent of further audit procedures. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards.*

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards, and *Government Auditing Standards.*

AUDIT PROCEDURES - COMPLIANCE

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the MPO and PPC's compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the

objective of those procedures will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards.*

NON-ATTEST SERVICES (IF APPLICABLE)

All non-attest services to be provided in the attached engagement letter (if applicable) shall be provided pursuant to the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct. The AICPA Code of Professional Conduct requires that we establish objectives of the engagement and the services to be performed, which are described under non-attest services in the attached letter.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities for the nonattest services we provide; oversee the services by designating an individual, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services; and accept responsibility for them. In order to ensure we provide such services in compliance with all professional standards, you are responsible for-

- Making all financial records and related information available to us.
- Ensuring that all material information is disclosed to us.
- Granting unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- Identifying and ensuring that such non-attest complies with the laws and regulations.

The accuracy and appropriateness of such non-attest services shall be limited by the accuracy and sufficiency of the information provided by you. In the course of providing such non-attest services, we may provide professional advice and guidance based on our knowledge accounting, tax and other compliance, and of the facts and circumstances as provided by you. Such advice and guidance shall be limited as permitted under the Code of Professional Conduct.

COMMUNICATIONS

At the conclusion of the audit engagement, we may provide Management and those charged with governance a letter stating any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses which may have been identified by us during the audit and our recommendations designed to help the MPO and PPC make improvements in its internal control structure and operations related to the identified matters discovered in the financial statement audit. As part of this engagement we will ensure that certain additional matters are communicated to the appropriate members of the MPO and PPC. Such matters include (1) our responsibility under GAAS; (2) the initial selection of and changes in significant accounting policies and their application; (3) our independence with respect to the MPO and PPC; (4) the process used by Management in formulating particularly sensitive accounting estimates and the basis for our conclusion regarding the reasonableness of those estimates; (5) audit adjustments, if any, that could, in our judgment, either individually or in the aggregate be significant to the financial statements or our report; (6) any disagreements with Management concerning a financial accounting, reporting or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements; (7) our views about matters that were the subject of Management's consultation with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters; (8) major issues that were discussed with Management in connection with the retention of our services, including, among other matters, any discussions regarding the application of accounting principles and auditing standards; and (9) serious difficulties that we encountered in dealing with Management related to the performance of the audit.

OTHER MATTERS

Access to working papers

The working papers and related documentation for the engagement are the property of the Firm and constitute confidential information. We have a responsibility to retain the documentation for a period of time to satisfy legal or regulatory requirements for records retention. It is our policy to retain all workpapers and client information for seven years from the date of issuance of the report. It is our policy to retain emails and attachments to emails for a period of 15 months, except as required by any

governmental regulation. Except as discussed below, any requests for access to our working papers will be discussed with you prior to making them available to requesting parties. Any parties seeking access to our working papers must agree to sign our standard access letter.

We may be requested to make certain documentation available to regulators, governmental agencies (e.g., SEC, PCAOB, HUD, DOL, etc.) or their representatives ("Regulators") pursuant to law or regulations. If requested, access to the documentation will be provided to the Regulators. The Regulators may intend to distribute to others, including other governmental agencies, our working papers and related documentation without our knowledge or express permission. You hereby acknowledge and authorize us to allow Regulators access to and copies of documentation as requested. In addition, our Firm, as well as all other major accounting firms, participates in a "peer review" program covering our audit and accounting practices as required by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. This program requires that once every three years we subject our quality assurance practices to an examination by another accounting firm. As part of the process, the other firm will review a sample of our work. It is possible that the work we perform for you may be selected by the other firm for their review. If it is, they are bound by professional standards to keep all information confidential. If you object to having the work we do for you reviewed by our peer reviewer, please notify us in writing.

Electronic transmittals

During the course of our engagement, we may need to electronically transmit confidential information to each other, within the Firm, and to other entities engaged by either party. Although email is an efficient way to communicate, it is not always a secure means of communication and thus, confidentiality may be compromised. As an alternative, we recommend using our Client Portal ("Portal") to transmit documents. Portal allows you, us, and other involved entities to upload and download documents in a secure location. You agree to the use of email, Portal, and other electronic methods to transmit and receive information, including confidential information between the Firm, the MPO and PPC, and other third party providers utilized by either party in connection with the engagement.

Subpoenas

In the event we are requested or authorized by you or required by government regulation, subpoena, or other legal process to produce our working papers or our personnel as witnesses with respect to our engagement for you, you will, so long as we are not a party to the proceeding in which the information is sought, reimburse us for our professional time and expense, as well as the fees and expenses of our counsel, incurred in responding to such a request at standard billing rates.

Dispute resolution procedures

If any dispute, controversy or claim arises in connection with the performance or breach of this agreement, either party may, on written notice to the other party, request that the matter be mediated. Such mediation would be conducted by a mediator appointed by and pursuant to the rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or such other neutral facilitator acceptable to both parties. Both parties would exert their best efforts to discuss with each other in good faith their respective positions in an attempt to finally resolve such dispute, controversy, or claim.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS SUPPORTING FEE

The estimated fees set forth in the attached engagement letter are based on anticipated full cooperation from your personnel, timely delivery of requested audit schedules and supporting information, timely communication of all significant accounting and financial reporting matters, the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit, as well as working space and clerical assistance as mutually agreed upon and as is normal and reasonable in the circumstances. We strive to ensure that we have the right professionals scheduled on each engagement. As a result, sudden MPO and PPC requested scheduling changes or scheduling changes necessitated by the agreed information not being ready on the agreed upon dates can result in expensive downtime for our professionals. Any

last minute schedule changes that result in downtime for our professionals could result in additional fees. Our estimated fee does not include assistance in bookkeeping or other accounting services not previously described. If for any reason the MPO and PPC is unable to provide such schedules, information and assistance, the Firm and the MPO and PPC will mutually revise the fee to reflect additional services, if any, required of us to achieve these objectives.

The estimated fees contemplate that the MPO and PPC will provide adequate documentation of its systems and controls related to significant transaction cycles and audit areas**.**

In providing our services, we will consult with the MPO and PPC with respect to matters of accounting, financial reporting or other significant business issues as permitted by professional standards. Accordingly, time necessary to effect a reasonable amount of such consultation is reflected in our fee. However, should a matter require research, consultation or audit work beyond that amount, the Firm and the MPO and PPC will agree to an appropriate revision in our fee.

The estimated fees are based on auditing and accounting standards effective as of the date of this engagement letter and known to apply to the MPO and PPC at this time, but do not include any time related to the application of new auditing or accounting standards that impact the MPO and PPC for the first time. If new auditing or accounting standards are issued subsequent to the date of this letter and are effective for the period under audit, we will estimate the impact of any such standard on the nature, timing and extent of our planned audit procedures and will communicate with you concerning the scope of the additional procedures and the estimated fees.

EXHIBIT "B"

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Insurance Requirements

Prior to the time the Auditor is entitled to commence any part of the project, work, or service under this agreement, the Auditor shall procure, pay for and maintain at least the insurance coverage limits specified below. Said insurance shall be evidenced by delivery to Forward Pinellas of: 1) a Certificate of Insurance executed by the insurers listing coverages and limits, expiration dates, and terms of policies and all endorsements whether or not required by Forward Pinellas, and listing all carriers issuing said policy; 2) a copy of each policy, including all endorsements listed below. The insurance requirement shall remain in effect throughout the term of this agreement.

1. Workers' compensation limits are required by law; employers' liability insurance of not less than $500,000 for each accident.
2. Comprehensive general liability insurance including, but not limited to, independent contractor, contractual, premises/operations, products/completed operations, and personal injury covering the liability assumed under indemnification provisions of this Agreement, with limits for liability for personal injury and/or bodily injury, including death, of not less than $1,000,000 combined single limits. Coverage shall be on an "occurrence" basis.
3. Professional liability insurance from management consultant errors and omissions liability insurance including but not limited to, general accounting, feasibility analysis, cost analysis with minimum limits of $1,000,000 per occurrence if Occurrence Form is available; or Claims Made Form with "tale coverage" extending three (3) years beyond completion and acceptance of the project with proof of "tale coverage" to be submitted with the invoice for final payment. In lieu of "tale coverage," Auditor may submit annually to Forward Pinellas current Certificate of Insurance proving claims made insurance remains in force throughout the same (3) years. Any failure to comply with the provisions of this paragraph will be considered a material breach of this Agreement.
4. Comprehensive automobile and truck liability covering owned, hired, and non-owned vehicles with minimum limits of $1,000,000 each occurrence, and property damage of not less than $1,000,000 each occurrence. (Combined single limits of not less than $1,000,000, each occurrence, will be acceptable unless otherwise stated.) Coverage shall be on an-occurrence basis, such insurance to include coverage for loading and unloading hazard. Each insurance policy shall include the following conditions by endorsement to the policy:
    A. Companies issuing the insurance policy, or policies, shall have no recourse against Forward Pinellas for payment of premiums or assessments for any deductibles which all are at the sole responsibility and risk of the Auditor.

B. The term Forward Pinellas shall include all authorities, boards, bureaus, commissions, divisions, departments, committees, and offices of Forward Pinellas and individual members, employees thereof in their official capacities, and/or while acting on behalf of Forward Pinellas.
C. Forward Pinellas shall be endorsed to the required policy or policies as an additional insured exclusive of professional liability insurance and workers' compensation insurance.
D. The policy clause "other insurance" shall not apply to any insurance coverage currently held by Forward Pinellas to any such future coverage or to Forward Pinellas' self-insured retention or whatever nature.

5. Auditor hereby waives subrogation rights for loss or damage against Forward Pinellas.

EXHIBIT "C"

TRUTH-IN-NEGOTIATION CERTIFICATE

In compliance with this Agreement dated _____, between Forward Pinellas and the Auditor, the Auditor herewith certifies that:

1) The rates of compensation and other factual unit costs supporting the compensation are accurate, complete, and correct at the time of contracting.
2) Any and all limitations on current or future years' contract fees, including any arrangements under which fixed limits on fees will not be subject to reconsideration if unexpected accounting issues are encountered, are disclosed herein.
3) Any and all services to be provided under the above-referenced Agreement at rates or terms that are not customary are described herein.

Annual maximum compensation rate is as specified this Agreement.
Standard compensation rate for this type engagement is as negotiated.

_____
Auditor

By: _____

Date: _____

EXHIBIT "D"

PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES CERTIFICATE

SWORN STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 287.133(3)(A).
FLORIDA STATUTES ON PUBLIC ENTITY CRIME

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND SWORN TO IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS.

1. This sworn statement is submitted to _____

By _____
(print this individual's name and title)

for _____
(print name of entity submitting statements)

whose business address is _____

and if applicable whose Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is _____

If the entity has no FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this sworn Statement:

_____

2. I understand that a "public entity crime" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(a), Florida Statutes, means a violation of any state or federal law by a person with respect to and directly related to the transactions of business with any public entity or with an agency or political subdivision of any other state or with the United States including, but not limited to any bid or contract for goods or services to be provided to any public entity or any agency or political subdivision of any other state or of the United States and involving antitrust, fraud, theft, bribery, collusion, racketeering, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation.

3. I understand that "convicted" or "conviction" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(b), Florida Statutes means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a public entity crime, with or without adjudication of guilt, in any federal or state trial court of record relating to charges brought by indictment or information after July 1, 1989, as a result of a Jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.

4. I understand that an "affiliate" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(a), Florida Statutes, means:

A. A predecessor or successor of a person convicted of public entity crime; or

B. An entity under the control of any natural person who is active in the management of the entity and who has been convicted of a public entity crime. The term "affiliate" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in the management of an affiliate. The ownership by one person of shares constituting a controlling interest in another person, or a pooling of equipment or income among persons when not for fair market value under an arm's length agreement, shall be a prima facie case that one person controls another person. A person who knowingly enters into a joint venture with a person who has been convicted of a public entity crime in Florida during the preceding 36 months shall be considered an affiliate.

5. I understand that a "person" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(e), Florida Statutes, means any natural person or entity organized under the laws of any state or of the United States with the legal power to enter into a binding contract and which bids or applies to bid on contracts for the provision of goods or services let by a public entity, or which otherwise transacts or applies to transact business with a public entity. The term "person" includes those officers, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in management of an entity.

6. Based on information and belief, the statement which I have marked below is true in relation to the entity submitting this sworn statement. (Please indicate which statement applies).

____ Neither the entity submitting this sworn statement, nor any of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or any affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime within the past 36 months.

____ The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime within the past 36 months.

AND (Please indicate which additional statement applies).

____ The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime within the past 36 months. However, there has been a subsequent proceeding before a Hearing Officers of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings and the Final Order by the Hearing Officer determined that it was not in the public interest to place the entity submitting this sworn statement on the convicted vendor list. (Attached is a copy of the final order).

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM TO THE CONTRACTING OFFICER FOR THE PUBLIC ENTITY IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 1 (ONE) ABOVE IS

FOR THE PUBLIC ENTITY ONLY AND, THAT THIS FORM IS VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 31 OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH IT IS FILED AND FOR THE PERIOD OF THE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO, WHICHEVER PERIOD IS LONGER. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT I AM REQUIRED TO INFORM THE PUBLIC ENTITY PRIOR TO ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT IN EXCESS OF THE THRESHOLD AMOUNT PROVIDED IN SECTION 287.017, FLORIDA STATUTES, FOR CATEGORY TWO OF ANY CHANGE IN THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FORM.

_____

(Signature)

City of _____

STATE OF FLORIDA

Sworn and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 2014 by

_____ who is Personally known to me _____

Or who produced identification _____

(Type of Identification)

_____

(Signature) Notary Public—State of Florida

_____

(Printed, typed or stamped commissioned name of notary public)

My commission expires _____ (SEAL)

EXHIBT "E"

CERTIFICATE REGARDING LOBBYING

49 CFR PART 20--CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements *(To be submitted with each bid or offer exceeding $100,000)*

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for making lobbying contacts to an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form--LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions [as amended by "Government wide Guidance for New Restrictions on Lobbying," 61 Fed. Reg. 1413 (1/19/96). Note: Language in paragraph (2) herein has been modified in accordance with Section 10 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-65, to be codified at 2 U.S.C. 1601, *et seq .)]*

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by 31, U.S.C. § 1352 (as amended by the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995). Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

[Note: Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 1352(c)(1)-(2)(A), any person who makes a prohibited expenditure or fails to file or amend a required certification or disclosure form shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such expenditure or failure.]

The Consultant, _____ (name), certifies or affirms the truthfulness and accuracy of each statement of its certification and disclosure, if any. In addition, the Consultant understands and agrees that the provisions of 31 U.S.C. A 3801, *et seq., apply* to this certification and disclosure, if any.

_____ (signature)

Print Name: _____

Title:_____

Date: _____

EXHIBIT "F"

CERTIFICATE REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS – PRIMARY COVERED TRANSACTIONS

(1) The prospective primary participant hereby certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency;

(b) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this proposal, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of federal or state antitrust statutes; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of the offenses listed in paragraph (b) of this certification; and

(d) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this certification, had one or more public transactions (federal, state or local) terminated for cause or default.

(2) The prospective primary participant also hereby certifies that if, later, it becomes aware of any information contradicting the statements of paragraphs (a) through (d) above, it will promptly provide that information to the U.S.D.O.T.

Signature/Authorized Certifying Official Typed Name and Title

---

Applicant/Organization Date Signed

April 12, 2017

5A1. Case CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017) – City of Pinellas Park

SUMMARY

From: Activity Center (AC)
To: Activity Center (AC)
Area: 1.7 acres m.o.l.
Location: 7651 US Highway 19

This proposed amendment is submitted by the City of Pinellas Park and seeks to amend a property totaling approximately 1.7 acres from and to AC (used to recognize those areas of the county that have been identified and planned for in a special and detailed manner, serve as identifiable centers of business, public, and residential activity that are the focal point of a community, and are served by enhanced transit commensurate with the type, scale, and intensity of use).

The City of Pinellas Park proposes to amend the permitted density, intensity and uses on a parcel located within the Activity Center governed by the Pinellas Park Community Redevelopment Plan, providing for: an increase in the maximum permitted density from 12.5 to 24 dwelling units per acre; a decrease in the maximum permitted floor area ratio from 0.65 to 0.55; and a change in permitted uses from predominantly institutional to predominantly commercial in nature.

The property is currently vacant, and is proposed to become an expansion to the existing automotive dealer (Crown Honda) to the north.

FINDINGS

Staff submits the following findings in support of the recommendation for approval:

A. The AC category recognizes the proposed use of the site, and is consistent with the criteria for utilization of this category.
B. The proposed amendment either does not involve, or will not significantly impact, the remaining relevant countywide considerations.

Please see accompanying attachments and documents in explanation and support of these findings.

LIST OF MAPS & ATTACHMENTS:

Map 1 Locator Map
Map 2 Site Map
Map 3 Aerial Map
Map 4 Current Countywide Plan Map
Map 5 Proposed Countywide Plan Map
Map 6 Large Aerial Map with Activity Center

Attachment 1 Forward Pinellas Staff Analysis

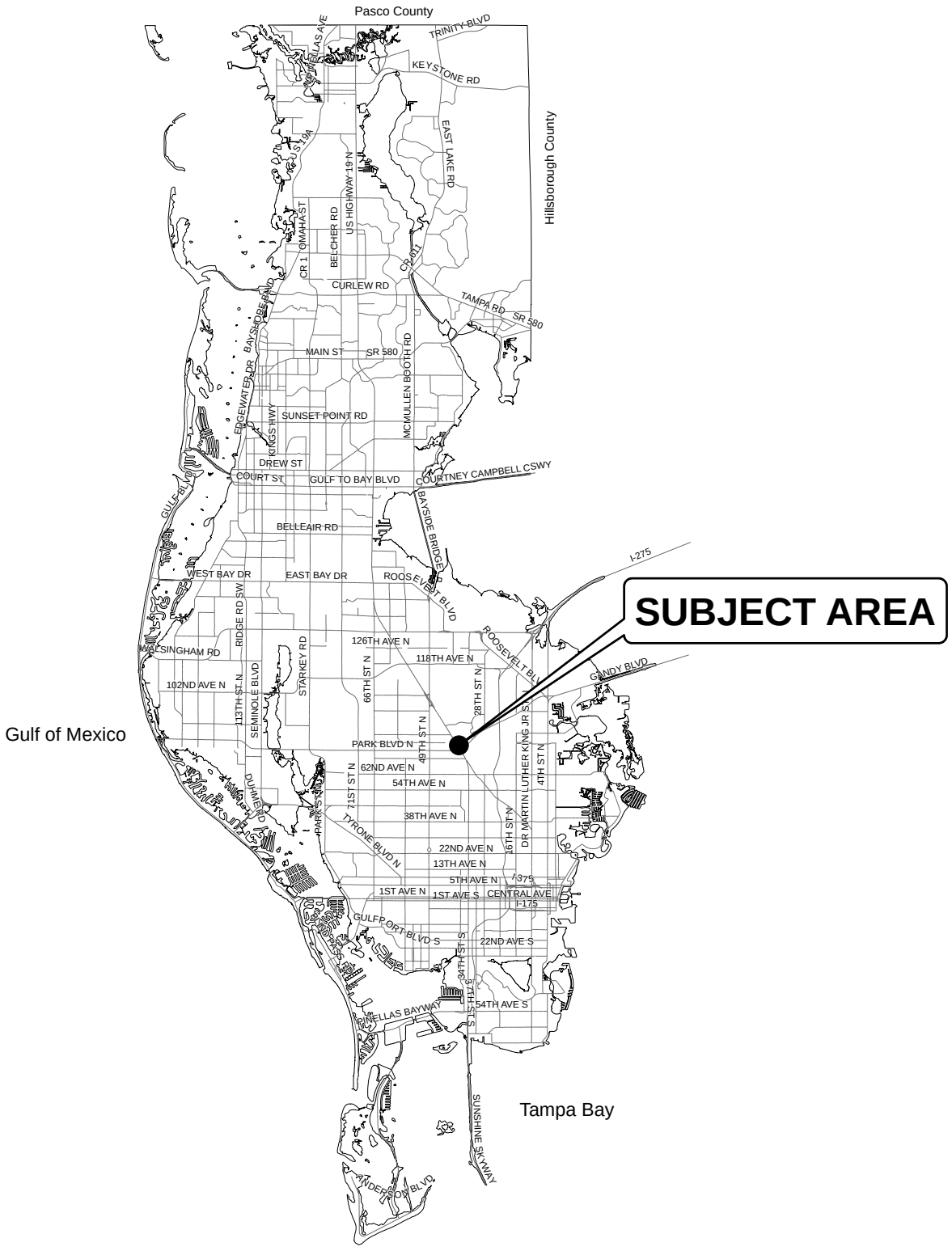
MEETING DATES:

Planners Advisory Committee, April 3, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.
Forward Pinellas, April 12, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.
Countywide Planning Authority, May 9, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

ACTION: Board, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, recommend approval or denial of the requested amendment.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends to the board that it recommend approval of the requested amendment.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION(S): The Planners Advisory Committee met on April 3, 2017 and voted 10-0 to approve this amendment.



Map 1 - Location

CASE #: CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017) **FROM: Activity Center** **AREA: 1.7 Acres**

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park **TO: Activity Center**

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

Miles
0 2 4 8

Map 2 - Current Countywide Plan Map & Jurisdictional Map

CASE #: CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017)

FROM: Activity Center

AREA: 1.7 Acres

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park

TO: Activity Center

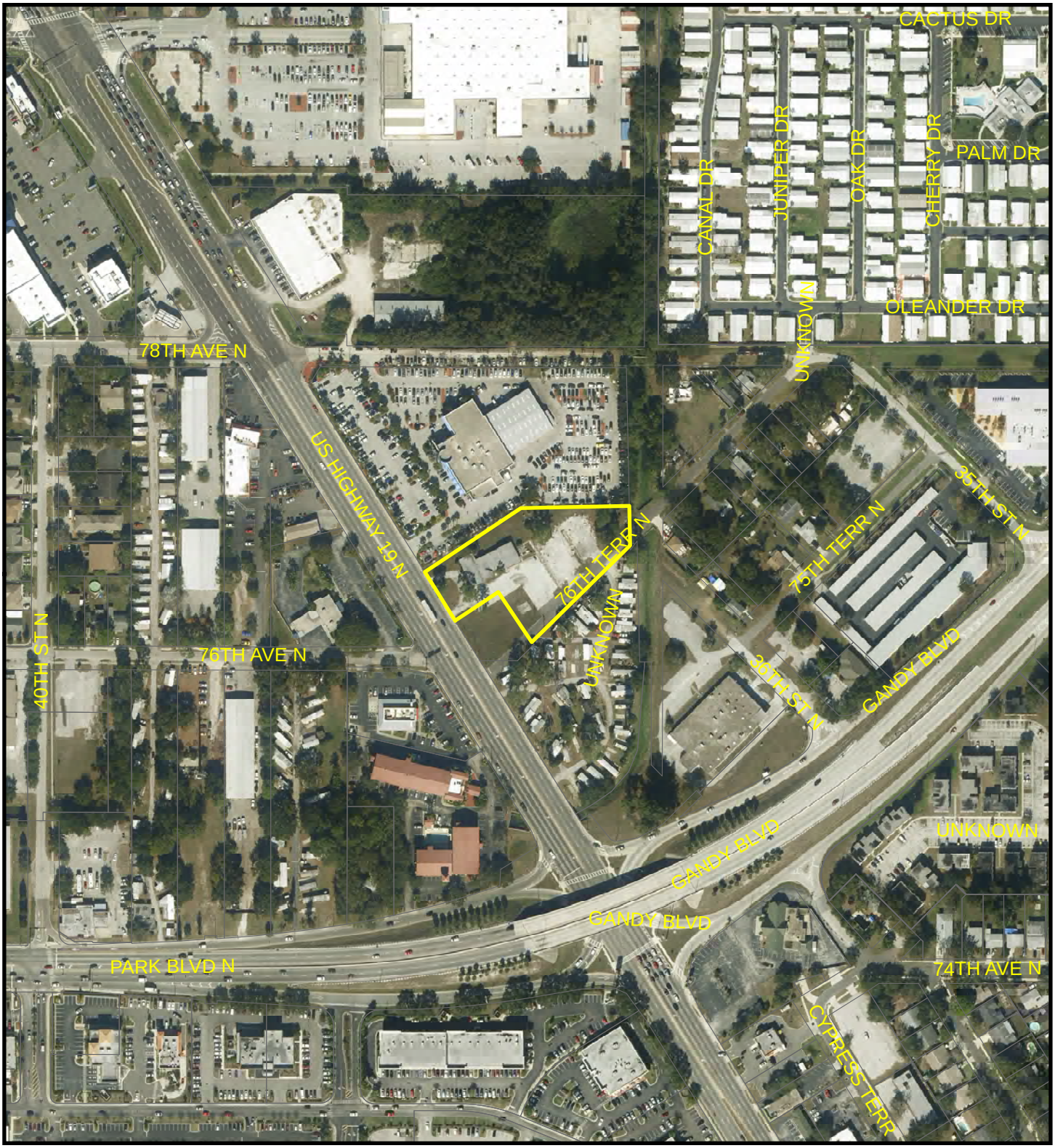
LEGEND:

Pinellas Park

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

Feet
0 100 200 400



Map 3 - Aerial

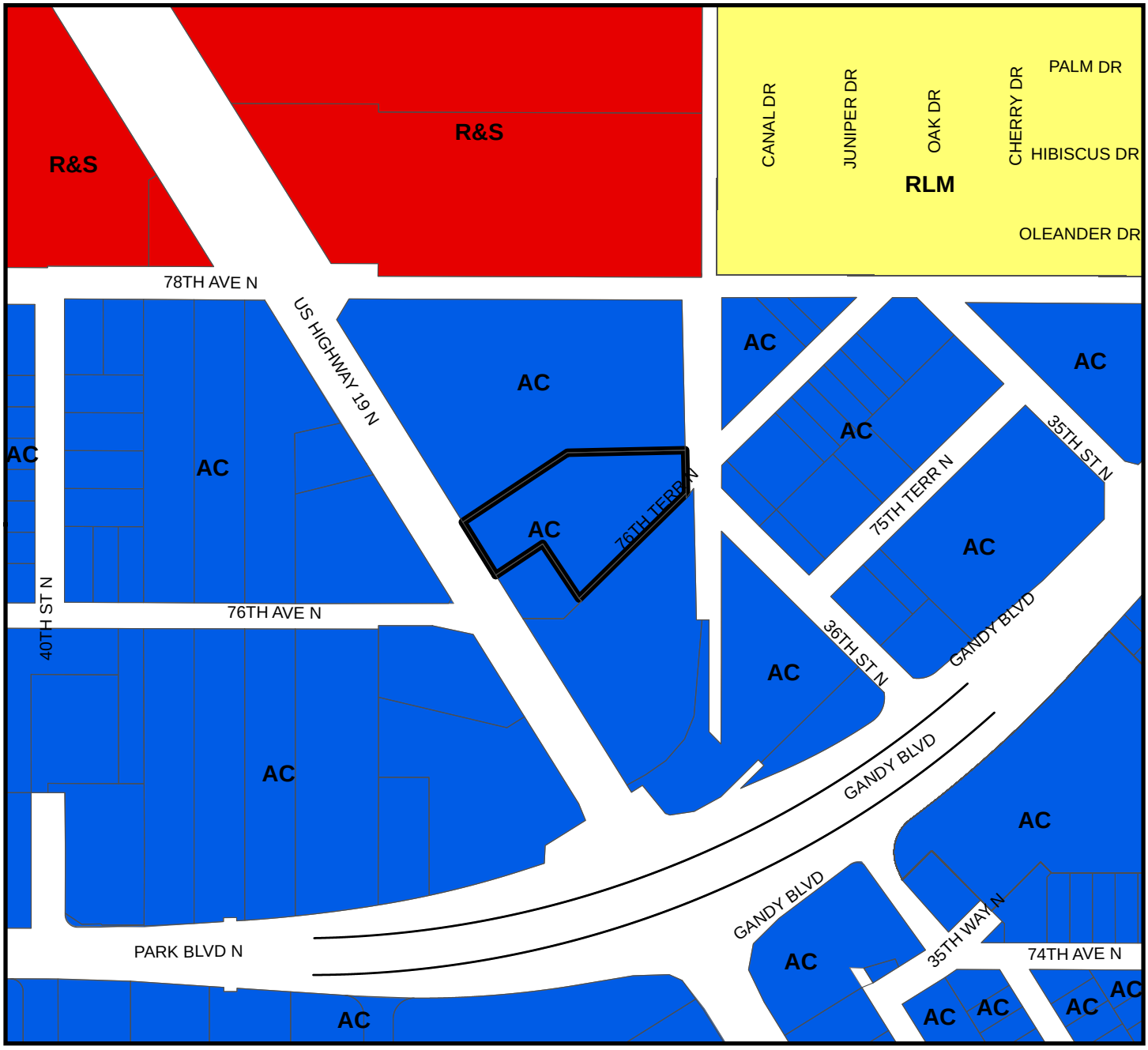
CASE #: CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017) **FROM:** Activity Center **AREA:** 1.7 Acres

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park **TO:** Activity Center

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

0 100 200 400 Feet



Countywide Plan Map Categories

- Residential Low Medium
- Activity Center
- Retail & Services

Map 4 - Current Countywide Plan Map

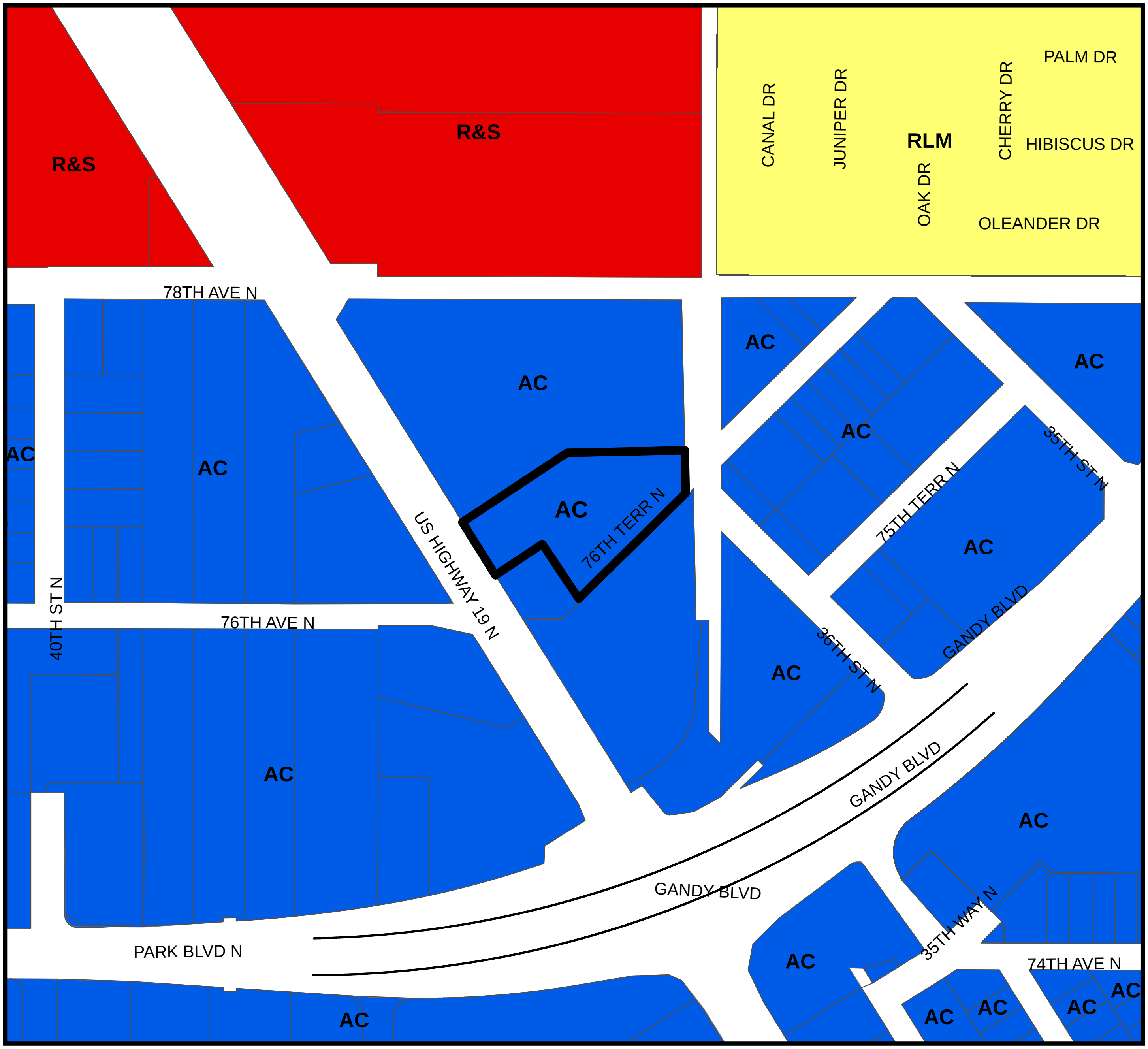
CASE #: CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017) **FROM:** Activity Center **AREA:** 1.7 Acres

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park **TO:** Activity Center

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

Feet
0 100 200 400



Countywide Plan Map Categories

- Residential Low Medium
- Activity Center
- Retail & Services

Map 5 - Proposed Countywide Plan Map

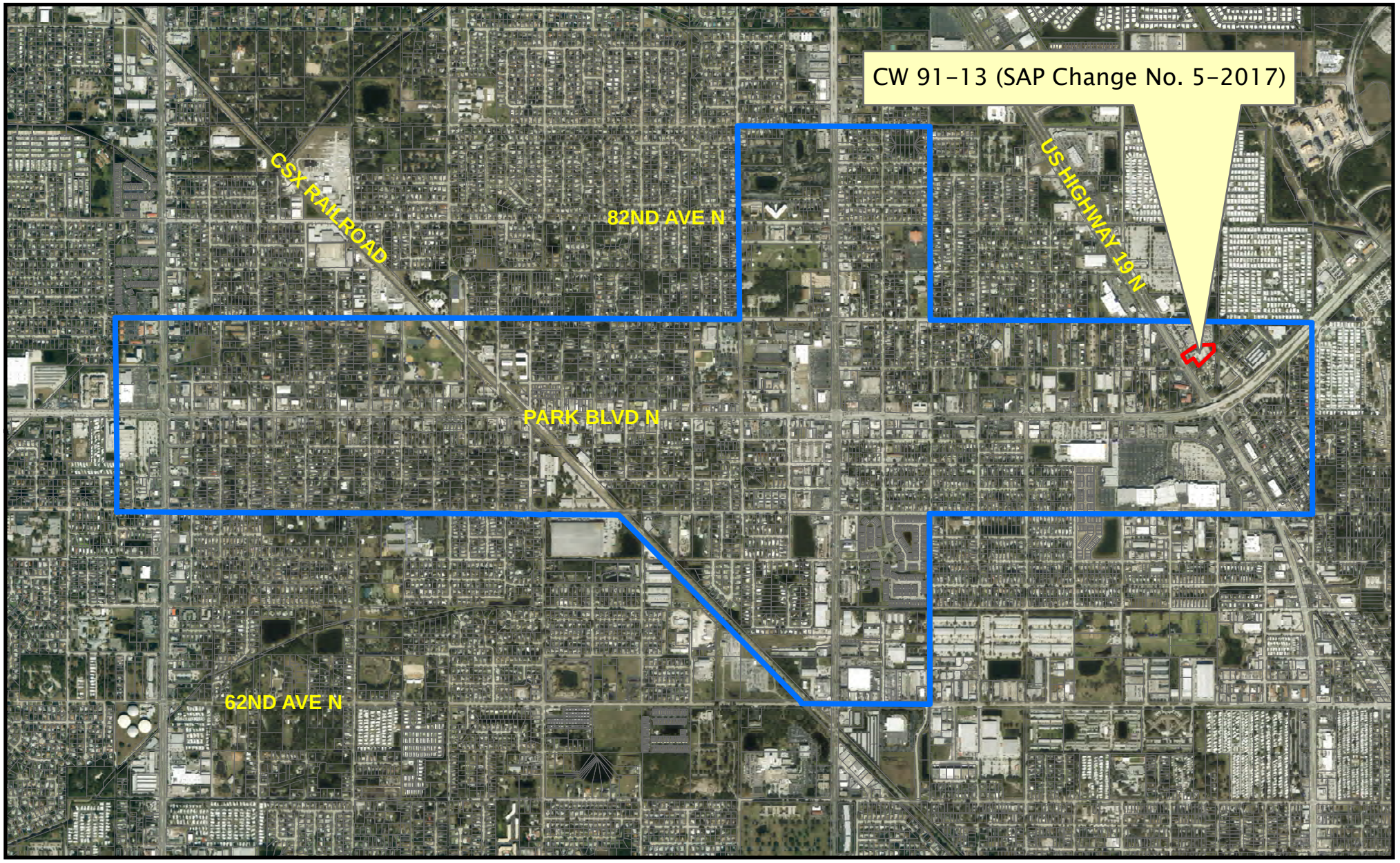
CASE #: CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017) **FROM:** Activity Center **AREA:** 1.7 Acres

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park **TO:** Activity Center

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

Feet
0 100 200 400



Map 6 - Large Aerial

CASE #: CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017)

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park

FROM: Activity Center

TO: Activity Center

AREA: 1.7 Acres

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

Legend

- CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017)
- Pinellas Park Special Area Plan Boundary

0 5001,000 2,000 Feet

CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017)
Forward Pinellas Staff Analysis

Relevant Countywide Considerations:

1) **Consistency with the Countywide Plan and Rules** – The City of Pinellas Park proposes to amend the Countywide Map designation from Activity Center to Activity Center.

   The current and proposed Activity Center category is used to recognize those areas of the county that have been identified and planned for in a special and detailed manner, serve as identifiable centers of business, public, and residential activity that are the focal point of a community, and are served by enhanced transit commensurate with the type, scale, and intensity of use.

   The City of Pinellas Park proposes to amend the permitted density, intensity and uses on a parcel located within the Activity Center governed by the Pinellas Park Community Redevelopment Plan, providing for: an increase in the maximum permitted density from 12.5 to 24 dwelling units per acre; a decrease in the maximum permitted floor area ratio from 0.65 to 0.55; and a change in permitted uses from predominantly institutional to predominantly commercial in nature.

   The property is currently vacant, and is proposed to become an expansion to the existing automotive dealer (Crown Honda) to the north.

2) **Adopted Roadway Level of Service (LOS) Standard** – The amendment area is located on U.S. Highway 19, which is classified as a major arterial roadway. It is operating at an LOS of "F". Based on the City's comprehensive plan, the traffic generation rates will change from 67 trips per day (Institutional, "other" use) to 487 (Commercial General) per acre. That increase will have a de minimus impact on the 1,026-acre Activity Center as a whole. The property owner will be subject to the Pinellas County Multimodal Impact Fee Ordinance which will be assessed at the time of the final site plan submittal.

3) **Location on a Scenic/Noncommercial Corridor (SNCC)** – The amendment area is not located on a SNCC, so those policies are not applicable.

4) **Coastal High Hazard Areas (CHHA)** – The amendment area is not located in a CHHA, so those policies are not applicable.

5) **Designated Development/Redevelopment Areas** – The subject parcel is located with the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA). However, there was no consideration of special provisions for redevelopment of this parcel in the adopted Community Redevelopment Plan. Therefore, this amendment is deemed consistent with the Community Redevelopment Plan.

6) **Adjacent to or Impacting an Adjoining Jurisdiction or Public Educational Facility** – The proposed amendment area is not adjacent to the unincorporated Pinellas County or adjacent to or impacting a public educational facility, so those policies are not applicable.

Conclusion*:*

The proposed amendment is deemed consistent with the Relevant Countywide Considerations found in the Countywide Rules.

April 12, 2017

5A2. Case CW 17-2 – City of Pinellas Park

SUMMARY

From: Retail & Services (R&S) and Target Employment Center
To: Employment (E) and Target Employment Center
Area: 1.9 acres m.o.l.
Location: 11425 66th Street

This proposed amendment is submitted by the City of Pinellas Park and seeks to amend a property totaling approximately 1.9 acres from R&S (used to depict areas developed with a mix of businesses that provide for the shopping and personal service needs of the community or region, provide for employment opportunities and accommodate target employment uses, and may include residential uses as part of the mix of uses) to E (used to depict areas that are developed with, or appropriate to be developed with, a wide range of employment uses, including primary industries (i.e., those with a customer base that extends beyond Pinellas County), allowing for flex space, and for uses that have minimal external impacts). The current and proposed Target Employment Center category is an overlay used to depict those areas of the county that are now developed, or appropriate to be developed, in a concentrated and cohesive pattern to facilitate employment uses of countywide significance.

The subject property has been utilized for retail/storage. The proposed use is for granite fabrication and manufacturing. If approved, this amendment will be consistent with the Pinellas Park Comprehensive Plan.

FINDINGS

Staff submits the following findings in support of the recommendation for approval:

A. The Employment and Target Employment Center categories recognize the proposed use of the site, and is consistent with the criteria for utilization of this category.
B. The proposed amendment either does not involve, or will not significantly impact, the remaining relevant countywide considerations.

Please see accompanying attachments and documents in explanation and support of these findings.

LIST OF MAPS & ATTACHMENTS:

Map 1 Locator Map
Map 2 Site Map
Map 3 Aerial Map
Map 4 Current Countywide Plan Map
Map 5 Proposed Countywide Plan Map

Attachment 1 Forward Pinellas Staff Analysis

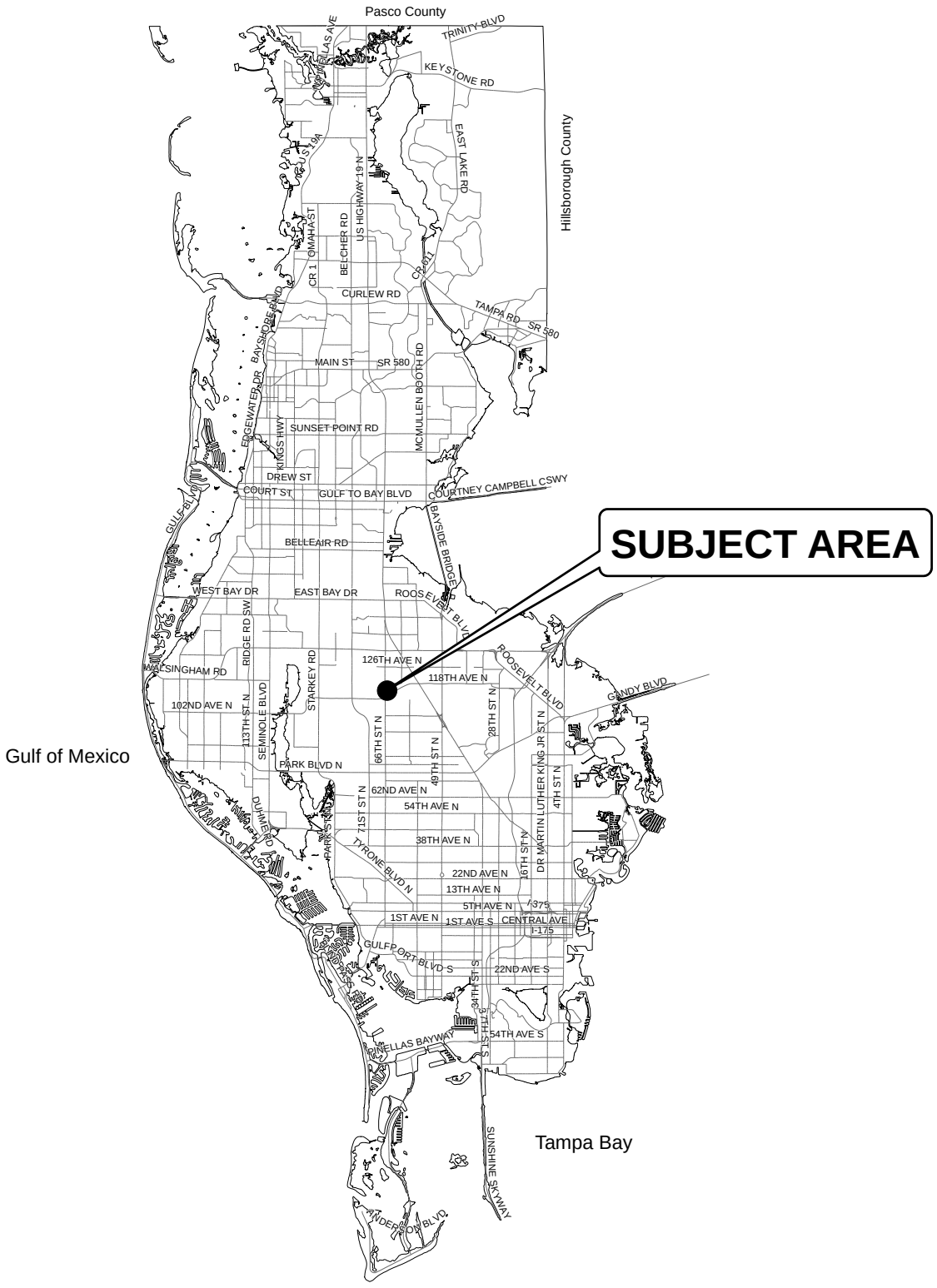
MEETING DATES:

Planners Advisory Committee, April 3, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.
Forward Pinellas, April 12, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.
Countywide Planning Authority, May 9, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

ACTION: Board, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, recommend approval or denial of the requested amendment.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends to the board that it recommend approval of the requested amendment.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION(S): The Planners Advisory Committee met on April 3, 2017 and voted 10-0 to approve this amendment.



Map 1 - Location

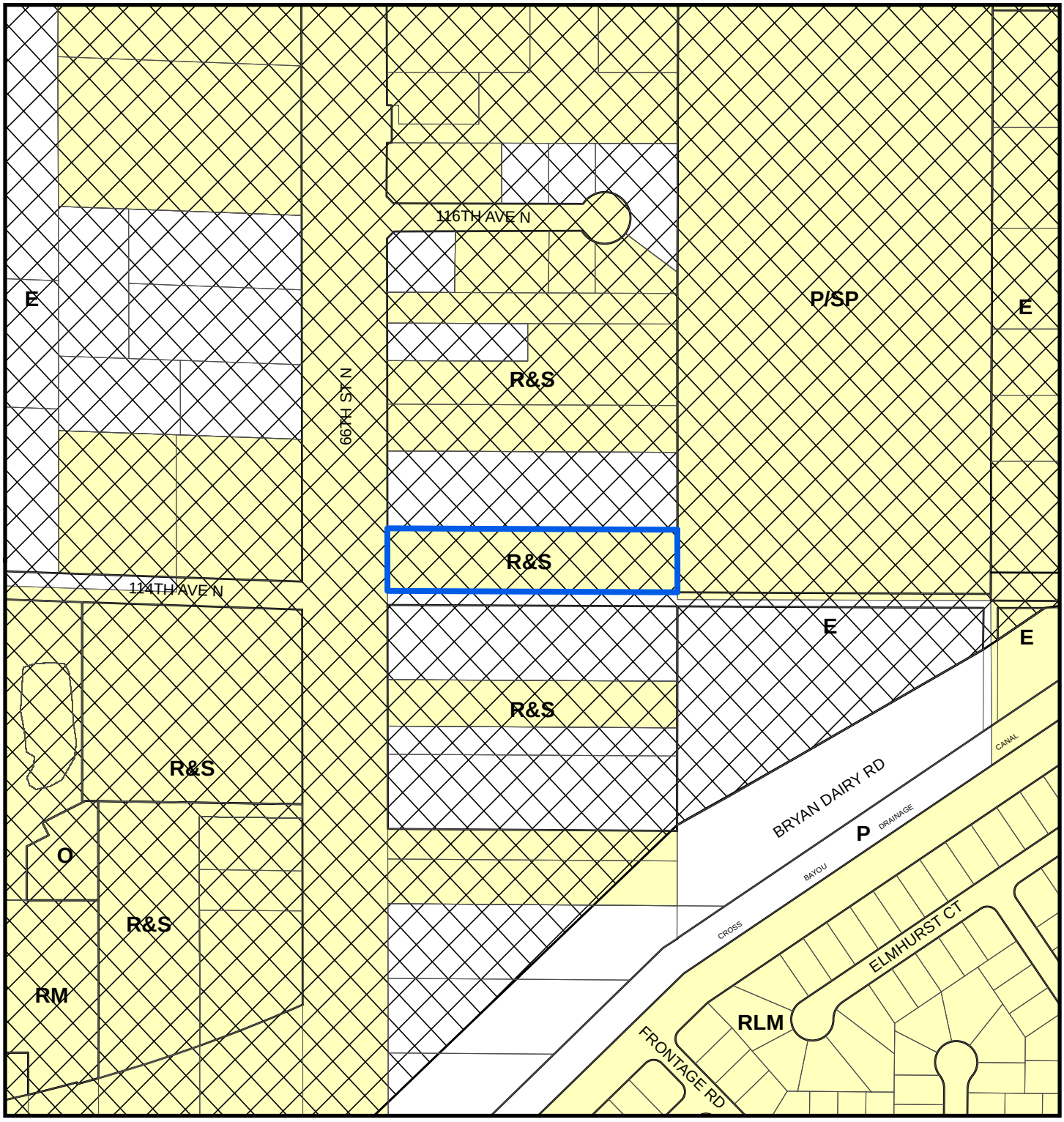
CASE #: CW17-2 **FROM: Retail & Services and Target Employment Center** **AREA: 1.9 Acres**

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park **TO: Employment and Target Employment Center**

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

Miles
0 2 4 8



Map 2 - Current Countywide Plan Map & Jurisdictional Map

CASE #: CW17-2

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park

FROM: Retail & Services and Target Employment Center

TO: Employment and Target Employment Center

AREA: 1.9 Acres

LEGEND:

- Pinellas Park
- Unincorporated

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

0 100 200 400 Feet

Map 3 - Aerial

CASE #: CW17-2

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park

FROM: Retail & Services and Target Employment Center

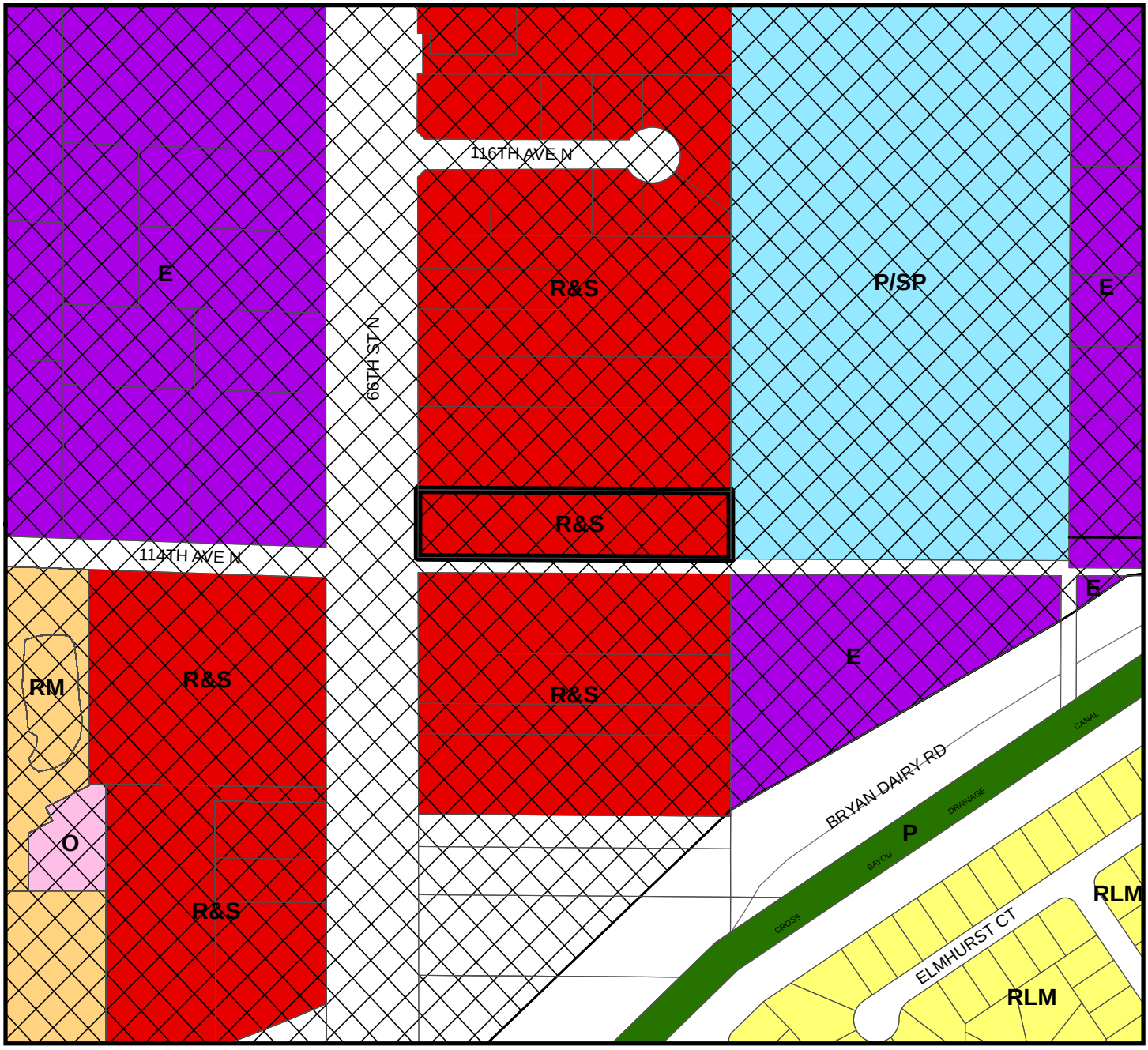
TO: Employment and Target Employment Center

AREA: 1.9 Acres

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

0 100 200 400 Feet



Countywide Plan Map Categories

Residential Low Medium	Employment
Residential Medium	Public/Semi-Public
Office	Preservation
Retail & Services	Target Employment Center

Map 4 - Current Countywide Plan Map

CASE #: CW17-2

FROM: Retail & Services and Target Employment Center

AREA: 1.9 Acres

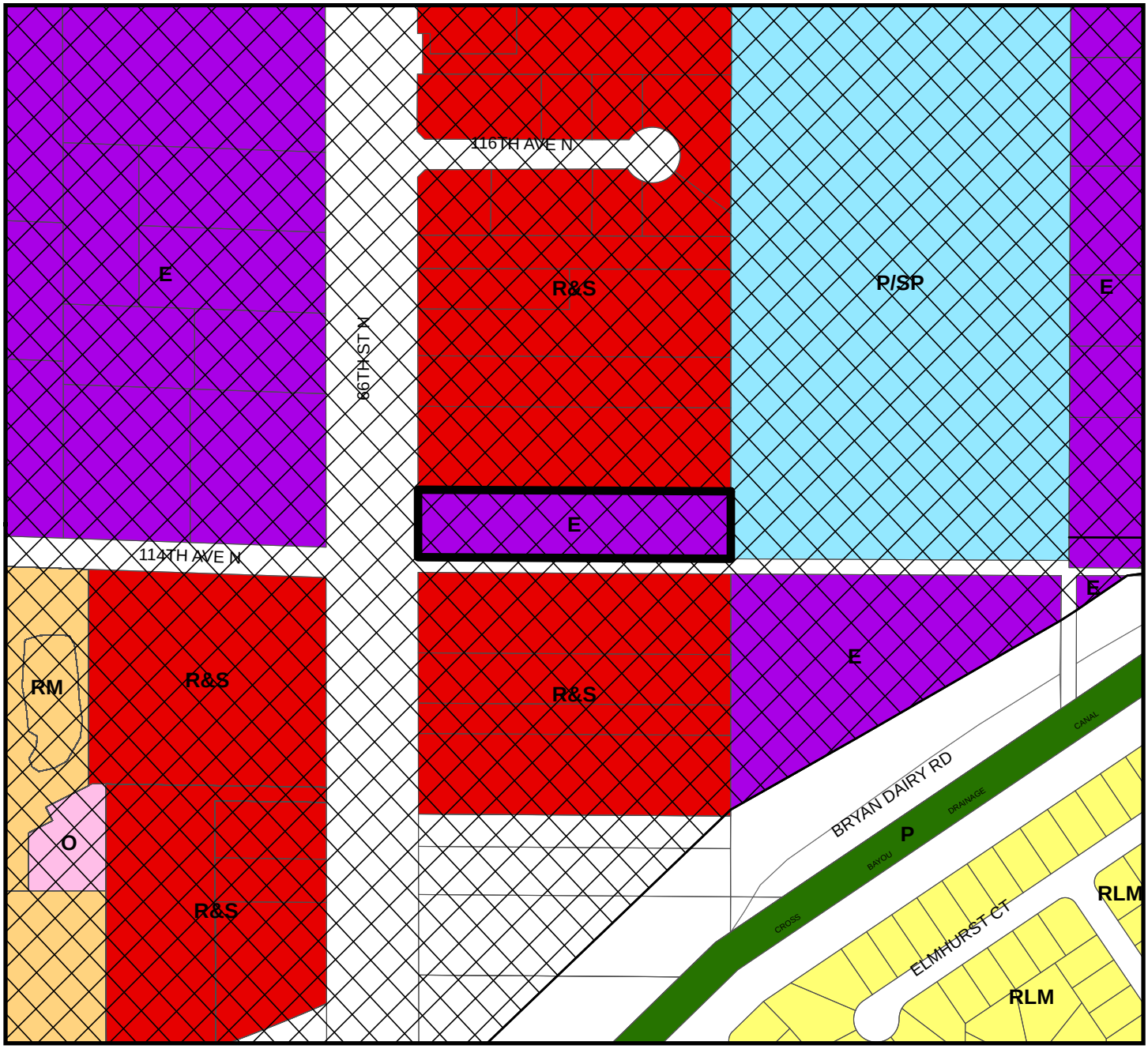
JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park

TO: Employment and Target Employment Center

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

Feet
0 100 200 400



Countywide Plan Map Categories

- Residential Low Medium
- Residential Medium
- Target Employment Center
- Office
- Retail & Services
- Employment
- Public/Semi-Public
- Preservation

Map 5 - Proposed Countywide Plan Map

CASE #: CW17-2

JURISDICTION: Pinellas Park

FROM: Retail & Services and Target Employment Center

TO: Employment and Target Employment Center

AREA: 1.9 Acres

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

NORTH

0 100 200 400 Feet

CW 17-2
Forward Pinellas Staff Analysis

Relevant Countywide Considerations:

1) **Consistency with the Countywide Plan and Rules** – The City of Pinellas Park proposes to amend the Countywide Map designation from Retail & Services and Target Employment Center to Employment and Target Employment Center.

   The current Retail & Services category is used to depict areas developed with a mix of businesses that provide for the shopping and personal service needs of the community or region, provide for employment opportunities and accommodate target employment uses, and may include residential uses as part of the mix of uses. The proposed Employment category is used to depict areas that are developed with, or appropriate to be developed with, a wide range of employment uses, including primary industries (i.e., those with a customer base that extends beyond Pinellas County), allowing for flex space, and for uses that have minimal external impacts. The current and proposed Target Employment Center category is an overlay used to depict those areas of the county that are now developed, or appropriate to be developed, in a concentrated and cohesive pattern to facilitate employment uses of countywide significance.

   The subject property has been utilized for retail/storage. The proposed use is for granite fabrication and manufacturing. If approved, this amendment will be consistent with the Pinellas Park Comprehensive Plan.

2) **Adopted Roadway Level of Service (LOS) Standard** – The amendment area is not located on a roadway operating at an LOS of "F", therefore those policies are not applicable.

3) **Location on a Scenic/Noncommercial Corridor (SNCC)** – The amendment area is not located on a SNCC, so those policies are not applicable.

4) **Coastal High Hazard Areas (CHHA)** – The amendment area is not located in a CHHA, so those policies are not applicable.

5) **Designated Development/Redevelopment Areas** – The amendment area is not located in a redevelopment area, so those policies are not applicable.

6) **Adjacent to or Impacting an Adjoining Jurisdiction or Public Educational Facility** – The proposed amendment area is adjacent to the unincorporated Pinellas County and is also adjacent to or impacting a public educational facility. Pinellas County Planning Department and Pinellas County School Board staff reviewed the case with the PAC and found no immediate issues with this amendment area changing from Retail & Services and Target Employment Center to Employment and Target Employment Center.

Conclusion*:*

The proposed amendment is deemed consistent with the Relevant Countywide Considerations found in the Countywide Rules.

April 12, 2017

6A. PSTA Activities Report

SUMMARY

This item includes a report from the board member representing the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA). This report will provide an opportunity for the PSTA representative to share information concerning planning initiatives, partnerships and collaboration and other relevant matters with the board.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; informational item only

April 12, 2017

6B. FY 2015/16 MPO Audit

SUMMARY

The FY2015/16 Audit Report is attached for review and approval by the Forward Pinellas Board in its role as the metropolitan planning organization (MPO). The Audit Report covers the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. After a review of the financial records, it is the auditor's opinion that the MPO has complied in all material respects with applicable financial requirements for the year ended September 30, 2016.

A representative of Cherry Bekaert and Associates, the MPO's auditor, will provide an overview of the findings.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Letter from Cherry Bekaert to the Forward Pinellas Board
- MPO Audit Report for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2016

ACTION: Board, in its role as the metropolitan planning organization, to approve the audit report

Cherry Bekaert LLP
CPAs & Advisors

Board Members
Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Clearwater, Florida

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (the "MPO") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 28, 2017. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated September 22, 2016. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

SIGNIFICANT AUDIT FINDINGS

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the MPO are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. We noted no transactions entered into by the MPO during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the MPO's financial statements was management's estimate of the allowance for doubtful accounts. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no such misstatements for the year ended September 30, 2016.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated February 28, 2017.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the MPO's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the MPO's auditor. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

OTHER MATTERS

We applied certain limited procedures to the management's discussion and analysis, which is required supplementary information ("RSI") that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquires of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior year, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or the financial statements themselves.

RESTRICTION ON USE

This information is intended solely for the information and use of members of the Board and management of the MPO and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Cherry Bekaert LLP

Tampa, Florida
February 28, 2017

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
(A Component Unit Of Pinellas County, Florida)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION, AND COMPLIANCE REPORTS

As of and for the Year Ended September 30, 2016

And Reports of Independent Auditor

Cherry Bekaert LLP
CPAs & Advisors

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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Cherry Bekaert LLP
CPAs & Advisors

Report of Independent Auditor

Board of Directors
Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization
A Component Unit of Pinellas County, Florida
Clearwater, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (the "MPO"), a component unit of Pinellas County, Florida, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the MPO's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization, as of September 30, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position, thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3-6 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the MPO's basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards,* and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards,* we have also issued our report dated February 28, 2017 on our consideration of the MPO's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the MPO's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Cherry Bekaert LLP

Tampa, Florida
February 28, 2017

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

The Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (the "MPO") serves as the transportation planning agency for Pinellas County, Florida. It is a component unit of Pinellas County, Florida, and maintains a separate operating account to carry out its day-to-day transportation planning activities. Staff and support services to the MPO are provided by the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC). The MPO reimburses the PPC from its grant revenue for these services. The Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners ("BCC") now provides a cash match for the local share of the MPO's federal planning grants. In addition to the BCC, the MPO receives funding from the Federal Highway Administration, the Florida Department of Transportation, the State of Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, and the Federal Transit Administration.

The MPO's annual financial report presents a narrative overview and an analysis of the financial activities of the MPO as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the MPO exceeded its liabilities at September 30, 2016 by $1,103,055 (net position). Net position increased by $900,539 from the previous fiscal year.

- As of September 30, 2016, the MPO's general fund reported an ending fund balance of $1,063,668, an increase of $908,668 from the previous fiscal year.

- As of September 30, 2016, the MPO's special revenue fund reported an ending fund balance of $29,377, a decrease of $11,421 from the previous fiscal year.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the MPO's basic financial statements. These basic statements consist of three sections: government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, and the notes to the financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the MPO's overall financial status. These statements use a format similar to a private sector business. They include a statement of net position and a statement of activities.

The statement of net position presents information on the MPO's assets and liabilities. Net position, the difference between these assets and liabilities, is a useful way to measure the MPO's financial health.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the MPO's net position changed during this fiscal year. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities regardless of when cash is received or paid. This statement separates program revenue (charges for services, grants, and contributions) from general revenue.

Fund Financial Statements

Traditional users of governmental financial statements will find the fund financial statements presentation more familiar. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The MPO, like other governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The MPO uses a special revenue fund to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally or administratively restricted to expenditures relating to its federal and state grant awards. The MPO uses a general fund to account for all activities of the MPO, except for those included within the Special Revenue Fund.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, this set of financial statements focuses on events that produce near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on the balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year and is a narrower focus than the government-wide financial statements.

By comparing functions between the two sets of statements for governmental funds and governmental activities, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison.

Budgetary information is not included in the accompanying financial statements as the MPO is not required to legally adopt a budget for its General or Special Revenue Fund.

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to basic financial statements can be found on pages 13 through 18 of this report.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, changes in net position over time can be a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At the end of the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, the assets of the MPO exceeded liabilities by $1,103,055. At the end of the current fiscal year, the MPO reported a positive fund balance in the restricted and unrestricted categories of net position.

Following is a comparison of the MPO's net position as of September 30:

	2016	2015
Cash	$ 1,125,115	$ 987,446
Grants Receivable	709,364	808,231
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	10,010	6,718
Total Assets	1,844,489	1,802,395
Accounts Payable and Other Liabilities	161,166	262,558
Due to Other Governments	573,368	1,337,321
Deferred Rent	6,900	-
Total Liabilities	741,434	1,599,879
Net Position:		
Investment in Capital Assets	10,010	6,718
Restricted	29,377	40,798
Unrestricted	1,063,668	155,000
Net Position	$ 1,103,055	$ 202,516

Governmental activities increased the MPO's net position by $900,539 during the year ended September 30, 2016.

Following is a comparison of the MPO's statement of activities for the years ended September 30:

	2016	2015
REVENUES		
Program Revenues:		
Transportation Grants	$ 2,527,224	$ 2,675,947
Intergovernmental	131,288	264,873
General Revenue:		
Income from Debt Forgiveness	860,984	-
Miscellaneous revenue	26,503	963
Total Revenues	3,545,999	2,941,783
EXPENSES		
Transportation and General Government	2,645,460	2,776,577
INCREASE IN NET POSITION	900,539	165,206
Net Position - Beginning of Year	202,516	37,310
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	$ 1,103,055	$ 202,516

Grant revenue for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016 decreased from $2,675,947 to $2,527,224, a 5.6% decrease from 2015. The schedules of expenditures of federal awards detail the individual grant expenditures made during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016. It is important to note that some grant fiscal year periods differ from the financial statement period. Grant funding levels vary from year to year depending on specially funded and earmarked projects. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016, expenditures decreased by $131,117 or 4.7% from the previous fiscal year.

The changes in special revenue fund expenditures are due to the changes in level of expenditures on the part of subgrantees. The MPO serves as the designated recipient for the Federal Transit Administration's Jobs Access Reverse Commute and New Freedom grant programs, as well as for several earmarks. Pursuant to agreements, funds from those programs are passed on to subgrantees. An overall increase in subgrantee expenditures resulted in an increase in federal revenue. For example, the One Call One Click and One Call One Click Research expenditures for FY 16 increased from FY 15, by $61,990 (150%) and $19,369 (1,060%) respectively.

Financial Analysis of the MPO's Funds

As noted earlier, the MPO uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements. Governmental funds provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. This information is useful in assessing the MPO's financing requirements.

As of September 30, 2016, the MPO's general fund reported an ending fund balance of $1,063,668, an increase of $908,668 from the previous fiscal year. As of September 30, 2016, the MPO's special revenue fund reported an ending fund balance of $29,377, a decrease of $11,421 from the previous fiscal year. All of the MPO's fund balance is restricted for grant programs.

Currently Known Facts, Decisions, or Conditions

In 2010 local elected officials in Pinellas County concluded that it was desirable to integrate transportation and land use planning at the countywide level, and that the most effective way to accomplish that was through unification of the policy boards and staff of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC). The PPC is a countywide land use planning agency created in 1988 by a Special Act of the Florida Legislature. The unification of the MPO and the PPC was completed with the seating of the combined board in the fall of 2014 and the transfer of employees to the PPC from the Pinellas County Planning Department in December of 2014. Prior to the unification the MPO contracted with the Pinellas County Planning Department for staff services. With the unification, the employees who provided services to the MPO were transferred to the PPC and in December 2014 a staff and support services agreement was executed between the MPO and PPC, wherein the PPC now provides the services to the MPO. The MPO and PPC remain separate legal entities governed by a unified policy board.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the MPO's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed as follows:

Whit Blanton, FAICP
Executive Director
Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization
310 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

ASSETS		
Cash	$	1,125,115
Grants receivable		709,364
Capital assets, net		10,010
Total Assets		1,844,489
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		161,166
Due to Pinellas Planning Council		542,778
Due to other governments		30,590
Deferred rent		6,900
Total Liabilities		741,434
NET POSITION		
Investment in capital assets		10,010
Restricted		29,377
Unrestricted		1,063,668
Total Net Position	$	1,103,055

See notes to the financial statements.

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

PROGRAM EXPENSES		
Transportation	$	2,641,777
Loss on disposals of fixed assets		656
Depreciation		3,027
Total Program Expenses		2,645,460
PROGRAM REVENUES		
Transportation grants		2,527,224
Intergovernmental		131,288
Total Program Revenues		2,658,512
NET PROGRAM REVENUES		13,052
GENERAL REVENUES		
Income from debt forgiveness		860,984
Miscellaneous revenue		26,503
Total General Revenues		887,487
INCREASE IN NET POSITION		900,539
Net Position - Beginning of Year		202,516
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	$	1,103,055

See notes to the financial statements.

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

	Major Funds		Total Governmental Funds 2016
	General	Special Revenue	
ASSETS			
Cash	$ 1,125,115	$ -	$ 1,125,115
Due from other funds	488,231	-	488,231
Grants receivable	-	709,364	709,364
Total Assets	$ 1,613,346	$ 709,364	$ 2,322,710
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$ -	$ 161,166	$ 161,166
Due to other funds	-	488,231	488,231
Due to Pinellas Planning Council	542,778	-	542,778
Due to other governments	-	30,590	30,590
Deferred rent	6,900	-	6,900
Total Liabilities	549,678	679,987	1,229,665
Fund Balance:			
Restricted	-	29,377	29,377
Assigned	1,063,668	-	1,063,668
Total Fund Balance	1,063,668	29,377	1,093,045
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	$ 1,613,346	$ 709,364	$ 2,322,710

See notes to the financial statements.

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

Total Governmental Fund Balance	$	1,093,045
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the fund statements		10,010
Net Position of Governmental Activities	$	1,103,055

See notes to the financial statements.

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

	Major Funds		Total Governmental Funds 2016
	General	Special Revenue	
REVENUES			
Transportation grants	$ -	$ 2,527,224	$ 2,527,224
Intergovernmental	131,288	-	131,288
Miscellaneous revenue	26,503	-	26,503
Income from debt forgiveness	860,984	-	860,984
Total Revenues	1,018,775	2,527,224	3,545,999
EXPENDITURES			
Current:			
Transportation	110,107	2,538,645	2,648,752
Total Expenditures	110,107	2,538,645	2,648,752
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	908,668	(11,421)	897,247
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	155,000	40,798	195,798
FUND BALANCE - END OF YEAR	$ 1,063,668	$ 29,377	$ 1,093,045

See notes to the financial statements.

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

Net Change in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds		$	897,247
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:			
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays expenses in the current period. This difference is comprised of:			
Depreciation expense during fiscal year	(3,027)		
Capital outlay expenditures represented as increase to capital assets on the statement of activities	6,975		
Loss on the disposal of fixed assets	(656)		
			3,292
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		$	900,539

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1—Organization and reporting entity

The Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (the "MPO"), a component unit of Pinellas County, Florida, was established in 1977 following the passage of the Federal Highway Act of 1974. The MPO is authorized pursuant to Florida Statutes, Section 339.175. The purpose of the MPO is to develop plans, policies and priorities that guide local decision making on transportation issues. Principal responsibilities include the development of a 20-year Long Range Transportation Plan ("LRTP"), a 5-year Transportation Improvement Program ("TIP"), and related transportation planning studies and projects.

The MPO is governed by a thirteen member board of elected officials representing municipal governments, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners ("BCC"), and the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority ("PSTA"). The Florida Department of Transportation ("FDOT"), District 7 Office, is represented on the board by the District Secretary, or a designee, who is a technical advisor. The MPO's Executive Director oversees the MPO's daily operations and reports to the board. The MPO has considered any entities for which it has oversight and there are none meeting the criteria for inclusion in their financial statements.

Statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus, an amendment of Statements No. 14 and No. 34* of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") requires that these financial statements present the MPO (the "component unit") and disclose its primary government, Pinellas County, Florida. Component units generally are legally separate entities for which a primary government is financially accountable. In addition, the primary government is able to impose its will upon the component unit or there is a possibility that the component unit may provide specific financial benefits or impose specific burdens on the primary government. The MPO has been determined to be a component unit of Pinellas County, Florida.

Note 2—Summary of significant accounting policies

Basis of Presentation - The financial statements of the MPO have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") as applied to government units. GASB is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles in the United States of America. The more significant of the government's accounting policies are described below.

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements - The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all activities of the government. The MPO only has governmental activities and does not engage in any business-type activities.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include operating grants and intergovernmental revenues supplied by Pinellas County. General revenues include investment earnings and miscellaneous income.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds. Fund financial statements are presented for the MPO's general and special revenue funds, both of which are considered to be major funds.

General Fund - The General Fund is used to account for all activities of the MPO except for those included within the Special Revenue Fund.

Note 2—Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Special Revenue Fund - The Special Revenue Fund is used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally or administratively restricted to expenditures relating to the MPO's federal, state, and local grant awards.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation - The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available.

Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the MPO considers revenues to be available generally if they are collected within 90 days of the end of the current fiscal period, unless collections are delayed beyond a normal time of receipt due to unusual circumstances. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Budgets - Budgetary information is not included in the accompanying financial statements as the MPO is not required to legally adopt a budget for its General or Special Revenue Fund.

The MPO is required to prepare a Biennial Unified Planning Work Program which identifies the planning budget and planning activities to be undertaken during the program year, which generally runs from July 1 to June 30 to coincide with the state's fiscal year.

Cash - Cash includes amounts on hand and in demand deposit accounts. The MPO's investment policy is to maintain funds in near-cash investments, which yield the highest possible return within the limitations established by Florida statutes and Pinellas County ordinances.

Due to/from Other Funds - During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between the general and special revenue funds that may result in amounts owed between funds. Those related to goods and service type transactions are classified as "due to and from other funds."

Eliminations have been made for amounts due to and due from within the governmental funds.

Grants Receivables - No substantial losses are anticipated from present receivable balances, therefore, no allowance for uncollectible accounts is deemed necessary.

Capital Assets - Capital assets—which include furniture and equipment with an initial cost of $1,000 or more and an estimated useful life of more than one year—are reported in governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are recorded at their historical cost if purchased. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation. For the fund financial statements, capital assets are not capitalized in the funds used to acquire or construct them. Instead, capital acquisition and construction are reflected as expenditures in governmental funds.

Note 2—Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

The MPO's furniture and equipment is depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life for 5 years.

Deferred Rent - Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States require that operating lease arrangements be recognized on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease. Deferred rent is the difference between the straight-line recognition and the actual amounts paid.

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements requires management to make use of estimates that affect reported amounts. Actual results could differ from estimates.

Fund Equity - GASB issued Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions* ("GASB 54"), which establishes fund balance classifications, provides for a hierarchy of spending constraints for spendable resources and requires disclosure of nonspendable and spendable resources.

GASB 54 establishes a hierarchy for fund balance classifications and the constraints imposed on the uses of those resources.

The MPO has classified its fund balance with the following hierarchy:

Nonspendable - Nonspendable fund balances will be maintained if they are either: (a) not in spendable form or; (b) legally contractually required to be maintained intact. No amounts are classified as nonspendable as of September 30, 2016.

In addition to the nonspendable fund balance, GASB 54 has provided a hierarchy of spendable fund balances, based on a hierarchy of spending constraints.

- *Restricted* - Amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by: external resource providers (i.e., granting agencies such as Florida Department of Transportation, Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration or similar external entities); or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Amounts classified on the balance sheet total $29,377 for as of September 30, 2016.
- *Committed* - Amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the MPO's governing board, the MPO's highest level of decision making authority. Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the MPO's governing board taking the same formal action that imposed the constraint originally. No amounts are classified as committed as of September 30, 2016.
- *Assigned* - Amounts that include spendable fund balance amounts established by the Executive Director of the MPO that are intended to be used for a specific purpose that are neither considered restricted or committed. The intent for these funds shall be authorized by the MPO's governing board or granting authority or the MPO official to which the MPO's governing board delegates that authority. As of September 30, 2016, $1,090,735 is classified as assigned.
- *Unassigned* - This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes. No amounts are classified as unassigned as of September 30, 2016.

Note 2—Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

The MPO's policy is to apply expenditures against restricted fund balance first, then committed, then assigned, and then unassigned under circumstances where a particular expenditure can be made from more than one fund classification.

Net Position - Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities in the government-wide financial statements. Investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation. The MPO does not have any related long-term debt used to acquire capital assets. Net position is reported as restricted in the government-wide financial statement when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, laws or regulations of other governments.

Subsequent Events - In preparing these financial statements, the MPO has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through February 28, 2017, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 3—Deposits

At September 30, 2016, the carrying amount of the MPO's deposits was $1,125,115 and the bank balance was $1,304,656. Deposits are covered by federal depository insurance and, for the amount in excess of such federal depository insurance, by the State of Florida's Security for Public Deposits Act (the “Act”). Provisions of the Act require that public deposits may only be made at qualified public depositories. The Act requires each qualified public depository to deposit with the State Chief Financial Officer acting as State Treasurer, eligible collateral equal to or in excess of the required collateral as determined by the provisions of the Act. In the event of a failure by a qualified public depository, losses in excess of federal depository insurance and proceeds from the sale of the securities pledged by the defaulting depository are assessed against the other qualified public depositories of the same type as the depository in default.

Note 4—Capital assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2016 was as follows:

	Balance September 30, 2015	Additions	Deletions	Balance September 30, 2016
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Furniture and equipment	$ 34,661	$ 6,975	$ (6,156)	$ 35,480
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(27,943)	(3,027)	5,500	(25,470)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	$ 6,718	$ 3,948	$ (656)	$ 10,010

Depreciation expense for the year ended September 30, 2016 was $3,027.

Note 5—Due to other governments

Due to Pinellas County, FL - In prior years certain tasks performed by employees of Pinellas County were reimbursed under various federal and state transportation planning grants based on actual hours worked. Occasionally, this reimbursement was in excess of the fixed $1,150,000 annually paid to the BCC. During 2016, the BCC forgave the cumulative outstanding balance owed to the BCC in the amount of $860,984.

Prior to the unification between the MPO and the Pinellas Planning Council ("PPC"), effective December 14, 2014, a working capital balance was established with the BCC so that the MPO had an independent financial function. The working capital balance has been recorded as Due to Pinellas County, FL in the General Fund since any unexpended or unencumbered cash balance would be remitted to the BCC if the operations of the MPO were terminated. The MPO currently uses this working capital balance for operations, since the MPO needs the working capital to cover operations until it receives grant reimbursements. A description of the activity for the amounts owed to Pinellas County, Florida is provided below.

	Balance September 30, 2015	Increases	Decreases	Balance September 30, 2016
Personnel related excess revenues	$ 164,351	$ -	$ (164,351)	$ -
Due to Pinellas County, Florida - Special Revenue Fund	164,351	-	(164,351)	-
Working capital balance	860,984	-	(860,984)	-
Due to Pinellas County, Florida - General Fund	860,984	-	(860,984)	-
Total Due to Pinellas County, Florida	$ 1,025,335	$ -	$ (1,025,335)	$ -

Note 5—Due to other governments (continued)

Due to Pinellas Planning Council - Beginning after December 14, 2014, the MPO began utilizing the employees of the Pinellas Planning Council ("PPC") at actual cost. For the year ended September 30, 2016, the amount paid to the PPC for these contracted employee costs were $1,101,855. The total owed to the PPC for contracted employee costs is $515,711 as of September 30, 2016.

Due to Other Governments - The remaining amount included in Due to Other Governments relates to money owed to the City of St. Petersburg and PSTA. On September 30, 2016, this amount totaled $30,590.

Note 6—Commitments

The MPO has entered into contracts with several transportation engineering firms and planning consultants in order to fulfill the work under various grants administered by the State of Florida. Incomplete portions of these contracts, which are not required to be fully spent as of September 30, 2016 totaled $2,819,637. The contracts were structured so that they expire once a maximum dollar amount is expended or the contract term is reached. Two of the contracts in effect in 2016 have reached their maximum term and have been closed. Two others along with new contracts executed in 2016 remain in effect. Although these contracts represent commitments of the MPO, the great majority of revenues expended under these will, in turn, be reimbursable under grants already awarded to the MPO. A relatively small portion is expected to be subsidized by Pinellas County, in accordance with local matching fund requirements of the grants.

Note 7—Contingencies

Grant monies received and disbursed by the MPO are for specific purposes and are subject to review and audit by the grantor agencies. Such audits may result in requests for reimbursement due to disallowed expenditures. Based upon prior experience, the MPO does not believe that such disallowances, if any, would have a material effect on the financial position of the MPO.

Note 8—Risk management

As of September 30, 2016, the MPO had not separately established a Risk Management Fund or Pool. As a component unit of Pinellas County, Florida, insurance coverage is provided entirely through the County's risk management pool for employee liability and workers' compensation coverage. For the year ended September 30, 2016, the MPO paid $4,780 to Pinellas County for coverage.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

	Federal CFDA Number	Federal Grant Number	FPN/ State Number	Program Expenditures	Transfer to Subrecipients
FEDERAL GRANTOR I PASS THROUGH GRANTOR AWARD					
U.S. Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration					
Pass through Florida Department of Transportation:					
Highway Planning and Construction Cluster					
Metropolitan Planning Program					
Federal Section 1107 (PL) Funds	20.205	A5209	259397 1 14 16	$ 876,772	$ -
Federal Highway Administration					
Highway Planning Grant					
Surface Transportation Program Funds	20.205	ARE07	430015 1 14 02	163,995	-
Total Highway Planning and Construction Cluster				1,040,767	-
Direct Program:					
Federal Transit- Capital Investment Grants					
Congressional Earmark (FTA 5309 - Intermodal)	20.500	FL-03-0322-00	N/A	50,338	50,338
Federal Transit- Capital Investment Grants					
Congressional Earmark (FTA PMI 5307)	20.500	FL-90-X822	N/A	382,137	382,137
Federal Transit- Capital Investment Grants					
Congressional Earmark (FTA 5309 - Central Ave)	20.500	FL-04-0134-01	N/A	9,127	9,127
Federal Transit- Capital Investment Grants					
Congressional Earmark (FTA PMI 5309)	20.500	FL-04-0156-00	N/A	103,384	103,384
Total Program				544,986	544,986
Direct Program:					
Public Transportation Research Grants (FTA 5312)	20.514	FL-26-0023-00	N/A	21,197	21,197
Total Program				21,197	21,197
Pass through Florida Department of Transportation:					
Metropolitan Transportation Planning					
Section 5305 (G0E13)	20.505	G0E13	402514 1 14 17	645,261	-
Total Program				645,261	-

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

	Federal CFDA Number	Federal Grant Number	FPN/ State Number	Program Expenditures	Transfer to Subrecipients
U.S. Department of Transportation - Federal Transit Administration (continued)					
Direct Program:					
Transit Services Programs Cluster					
Job Access - Reverse Commute	20.516	FL-37-X078	N/A	21,329	21,329
New Freedom Program	20.521	FL-57-X009-05	N/A	77,569	77,569
New Freedom Program	20.521	FL-57-X045	N/A	64,040	64,040
Total Transit Services Programs Cluster				162,938	162,938
Total US Department of Transportation - Federal Transit Administration				2,415,149	729,121
Total Federal Awards				$ 2,415,149	$ 729,121

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

	State CSFA Number	State Project Number	FPN/ State Number	Program Expenditures	Transfer to Subrecipients
Florida Department of Transportation					
Direct Program:					
Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) Planning Grant Program	55.002	GO251	432029 1 14 01	$ 31,346	$ -
Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) Planning Grant Program	55.002	G0C76	432029 1 14 01	7,310	-
Total Program				38,656	-
Total Florida Department of Transportation				38,656	-
Total State Financial Assistance				$ 38,656	$ -

See accompanying notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance.

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS AND SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

Note 1—Summary of significant accounting policies

The accounting policies and presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance of the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (the "MPO") have been designed to conform to the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and the reporting and compliance requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and Section 215.97, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida.

Reporting Entity - Federal awards and financial assistance received directly from federal agencies, the State of Florida or pass-through entities are included to satisfy audit requirements of the Uniform Guidance and Section 215.97, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance includes all federal and state awards earned by the MPO.

Basis of Accounting - Basis of accounting refers to when expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. The accrual basis of accounting is followed for the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and the schedule of expenditures of state financial assistance.

Note 2—Contingencies

Grant monies received and disbursed by the MPO are for specific purposes and are subject to review and audit by the grantor agencies. Such audits may result in requests for reimbursement due to disallowed expenditures. Based upon prior experience, the MPO does not believe that such disallowances, if any, would have a material effect on the financial position of the MPO.

Note 3—Indirect cost rate

The Organization did not allocate indirect costs for reimbursement of grant expenditures for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016.

COMPLIANCE REPORTS

Cherry Bekaert LLP
CPAs & Advisors

Report of Independent Auditor on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

Board of Directors
Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization
A Component Unit of Pinellas County, Florida
Clearwater, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (the "MPO"), a component unit of Pinellas County, Florida, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the MPO's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 28, 2017.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the MPO's internal control over financial reporting ("internal control") to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the MPO's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the MPO's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal* control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the MPO's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards.*

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Cherry Bekaert LLP

Tampa, Florida
February 28, 2017

Cherry Bekaert LLP
CPAs & Advisors

Report of Independent Auditor on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Board of Directors
Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization
A Component Unit of Pinellas County, Florida
Clearwater, Florida

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization's (the "MPO"), compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the MPO's major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2016. The MPO's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the federal statutes, regulations, and terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the MPO's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the MPO's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the MPO's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the MPO complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2016.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the MPO is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the MPO's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the MPO's internal control over compliance.

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the result of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Tampa, Florida
February 28, 2017

PINELLAS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

PART I—SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statement Section

Type of auditor's report issued:	Unmodified		
Internal control over financial reporting:			
Material weakness(es) identified?		yes	x no
Significant deficiency(ies) identified not considered to be material weakness(es)?		yes	x none reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?		yes	x no

Federal Awards Section

Internal control over major programs:			
Material weakness(es) identified?		yes	x no
Significant deficiency(ies) identified not considered to be material weakness(es)?		yes	x none reported
Type of auditor's report on compliance for major programs:	Unmodified		
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 200.516 (a) of the Uniform Guidance		yes	x no

Identification of the major federal program:

CFDA Number	Name of Program or Cluster
20.205	Highway Planning and Construction Cluster

Dollar threshold used to determine Type A and Type B programs:	$750,000		
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	x	yes	no

PART II—SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

This section identifies the significant deficiencies, material weaknesses, fraud, illegal acts, violations of provisions of contracts and grant agreements, and abuse related to the financial statements that are required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

There were no financial statement findings required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards.*

PART III—FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

This section identifies the significant deficiencies, material weaknesses, and material instances of noncompliance, including questioned costs, as well as any material abuse findings, related to the audit of major federal programs, as required to be reported by 2 CFR 200.516(a).

There were no findings required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

A Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings is not necessary since there were no prior audit findings.

Cherry Bekaert LLP
CPAs & Advisors

Independent Auditor's Management Letter

Board of Directors
Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization
A Component Unit of Pinellas County, Florida
Clearwater, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization, a component unit of Pinellas County, Florida, (the "MPO") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2016 and have issued our report thereon dated February 28, 2017.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance); and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

Other Reports and Schedule

We have issued our Report of Independent Auditor on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*; Report of Independent Auditor on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance; Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs; and Report of Independent Accountant on Compliance with Local Investment Policies, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated February 28, 2017, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. No recommendations were made in the preceding audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. This information is disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Financial Condition

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require that we apply appropriate procedures and report the results of our determination as to whether or not the MPO has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and identification of the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit we determined that the MPO did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.c. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures. It is management's responsibility to monitor the MPO's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by same.

Special District Component Units

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.d, Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not a special district that is a component unit of a county, municipality, or special district, provided the financial information necessary for proper reporting of the component unit, within the audited financial statements of the county, municipality, or special district in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit we determined that the MPO provided the necessary information for proper reporting in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes.

Other Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address in the management letter any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

The purpose of this management letter is to communicate certain matters prescribed by Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Accordingly, this management letter is not suitable for any other purpose.

Cherry Bekaert LLP

Tampa, Florida
February 28, 2017

Cherry Bekaert LLP
CPAs & Advisors

Report of Independent Accountant on Compliance with Local Investment Policies

Board of Directors
Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization
A Component Unit of Pinellas County, Florida
Clearwater, Florida

Report on Compliance

We have examined the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization's (the "MPO"), compliance with the local government investment policy requirements of Section 218.415, *Florida Statutes*, during the year ended September 30, 2016. Management is responsible for the MPO's compliance with those requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the MPO's compliance based on our examination.

Scope

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and, accordingly, included examining, on a test basis, evidence about the MPO's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our examination provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the MPO's compliance with specified requirements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the MPO complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements for the year ended September 30, 2016.

Cherry Bekaert LLP

Tampa, Florida
February 28, 2017

April 12, 2017

6C. Coast to Coast Trail Overview

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

SUMMARY

Florida's Coast to Coast (C2C) Trail is an initiative developed by various state and regional stakeholders to provide a safe and continuous shared use trail from the Gulf of Mexico to the Atlantic Ocean through Central Florida. This statewide trail system will total 275 miles, span nine counties when completed, and more than 75%, or over 200 miles, of the trail already exists and is open to the public. The C2C Trail will link communities through a series of existing and planned trails between Pinellas County and Brevard County and establish a major bicycle-pedestrian route to allow residents and visitors to explore the Tampa Bay area, Central Florida, and the Space Coast.

In 2014, the Florida State Legislature provided $50 million in funding over a five-year period to complete the "gaps" between existing trails to form this continuous shared use trail across the state. The C2C Trail is part of the Florida Greenways and Trails System Plan, which recognizes the economic impact to communities along trails, the growing popularity of eco-tourism, and growing public support for new trails. In 2016, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC), in partnership with the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council (ECFRPC), received funds through the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity's (DEO) Technical Assistance Grant Program to develop a framework for design continuity for the C2C Trail. The study recommended a unifying color scheme, wayfinding signage options, and design standards for amenities such as railings, fencing, landscaping, overpasses, etc. In 2017, the TBRPC and the ECFRPC received another technical assistance grant from DEO to develop a marketing toolkit and implementation guidebook for the C2C Trail. This project will build on the work performed by the Regional Planning Councils in developing the C2C Trail Design Overlay and Asset Inventory developed during 2016. Outcomes of the project include: Marketing Tool Kit; Implementation Guidebook; C2C Website; and Economic Impact Analysis. The Urban-Rural Design Overlay Study, can be found at the link below:
http://c2cconnector.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/C2C_Overlay_Report_May_2016_web2.pdf

Avera Wynne, TBRPC, will provide a presentation on their work to date on the Coast to Coast Trail.

ATTACHMENT(S): Coast to Coast Connector Trail Map

ACTION: None required, informational item only

SOUTH SUMTER CONNECTOR GAP*
Feasibility Study: $350,000
Withlacoochee State Trail to Van Fleet State Trail
*Alignment Study Area Under Consideration

SEMINOLE/VOLUSIA GAP
Wayside Park over US 17/92 Bridge
US17/92 Bridge to Lake Monroe Park
Design: $682,000

ORANGE GAP
Clarcona - Ocoee Rd to W. Orange Trail
Design: $306,000
N. Hiawassee Rd. to N. of SR414 on SR441
PD&E: $250,000

GOOD NEIGHBOR GAP
Suncoast Trail to existing Good Neighbor Trail
PD&E/Design: $1,034,000

SOUTH LAKE GAP
Van Fleet ST to Villa City Rd
Design: $3,500,000
SR 33 to Silver Eagle Rd
Design: $843,000

EAST CENTRAL GAP
Volusia County Line to Aurantia Rd
Construction: $7,356,000

SPACE COAST DOWNTOWN CONNECTOR GAP
Garden St. (SR406) to Max Brewer Causeway
Feasibility Study: $100,000

STARKEY GAP
East Lake Rd/Keystone Rd Intersection
PD&E, Design, and Construction: $3,939,300
Pinellas/Pasco Co. Line N. of SR 54
PD&E/Design: $460,000

GAP NAME
Phase(s) to be funded in 2014/2015

Existing Coast to Coast Connector
Funded for construction
To be funded for construction W/ 14/15 funds
Segment Gap, Alignment Undetermined
Segment Gap
Conservation Lands

N

0 12.5 25 50 Miles

The remaining phases and associated costs are estimates provided by metropolitan planning organizations and local governments. These estimates are subject to change as new information becomes available.

Date updated: 10/27/2014

Coast to Coast Connector

Total Estimated Miles: 250
Total Gap Estimated Miles: 69
Remaining estimated funding need: $63.3 Million

CITRUS
SUMTER
HERNANDO
LAKE
SEMINOLE
VOLUSIA
PASCO
HILLSBOROUGH
POLK
ORANGE
BREVARD
PINELLAS

Bushnell
Brooksville
Webster
Weeki Wachee
Center Hill
Clermont
Winter Garden
Winter Park
Orlando
Windermere
DeBary
Sanford
Lake Mary
Titusville
Kissimmee
Dade City
Saint Leo
Tarpon Springs
Dunedin
Clearwater
Largo
Tampa
St. Petersburg

Withlacoochee State Forest
The Green Swamp
Starkey Wilderness Preserve
Canaveral National Seashore
Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge
Cape Canaveral

75 275 4 95

April 12, 2017

6D. Central Avenue Corridor Bus Rapid Transit

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

SUMMARY

The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) is currently in the Project Development phase for the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. In January, the PSTA Board approved a preferred alignment for the Central Avenue BRT from downtown St. Petersburg to a minimum of 75th Avenue and Gulf Boulevard in St. Pete Beach, potentially extending south on Gulf Boulevard to the Don Cesar Hotel. This alignment meets the Central Avenue BRT primary project goals of strong ridership, high population density, number of hotel rooms and potential to reduce traffic congestion.

In order to stay on schedule for project completion and opening by late 2020, PSTA must provide a submittal to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) by August 31, 2017 that includes the locally preferred alternative, environmental documentation, funding commitment and documentation of inclusion in the Forward Pinellas Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Currently, PSTA is conducting traffic analysis, reviewing historical resources, and preparing documentation for FTA review and public outreach in April. PSTA will provide an update on the project. Later this year, the Forward Pinellas Board will be asked to include the project in its TIP.

ATTACHMENT(S): Central Avenue BRT Small Starts Project

ACTION: None required; informational item only

PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit Small Starts Project

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in St. Petersburg's Central Avenue corridor from downtown St. Petersburg to the Gulf beaches is an ideal BRT project for Pinellas County reflecting local priorities and local commitment to fixed guideway. This demographically diverse corridor represents the highest ridership corridor in the Tampa Bay Region.

The **goals of the Central Avenue BRT** project are to develop and implement successful BRT service that:

- Supports local revitalization and economic development plans;
- Supports tourism with a fast, convenient transportation alternative between two of Pinellas' major tourist centers;
- Attracts new ridership;
- Supports the unique character of the area; and
- Provides service in a cost-effective manner.

The Central Ave BRT will complement local service provided by the existing, and highly successful Central Avenue Trolley by providing **expedited, limited stop travel** from downtown St. Petersburg to the beaches, seven days a week on 1st Ave N (westbound) and 1st Ave S (eastbound).

The proposed BRT will serve only major stops in the corridor, cutting the current transit travel time from St. Pete to the beaches by more than a third.

Proposed Schedule

Spring 2016 – Enter Project Development
- Select alternatives for environmental review
- Begin agency coordination and public engagement

Summer 2016 – Refine Project
- Begin environmental impact analysis
- Develop design concepts
- Define project elements
- Continue agency coordination and public engagement

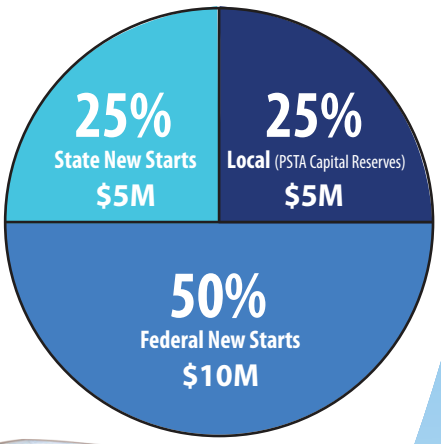
Spring 2017 – Conduct Impact Analysis (NEPA)
- Draft DCE Documentation to FTA

Summer 2017 – Finalize Project Development
- Complete Small Starts Evaluation and Justification Package
- Refine Financial Plan
- Request FTA Grant for inclusion in FY19 Budget

Summer 2019 – Anticipated Receipt of Construction Grant Agreement

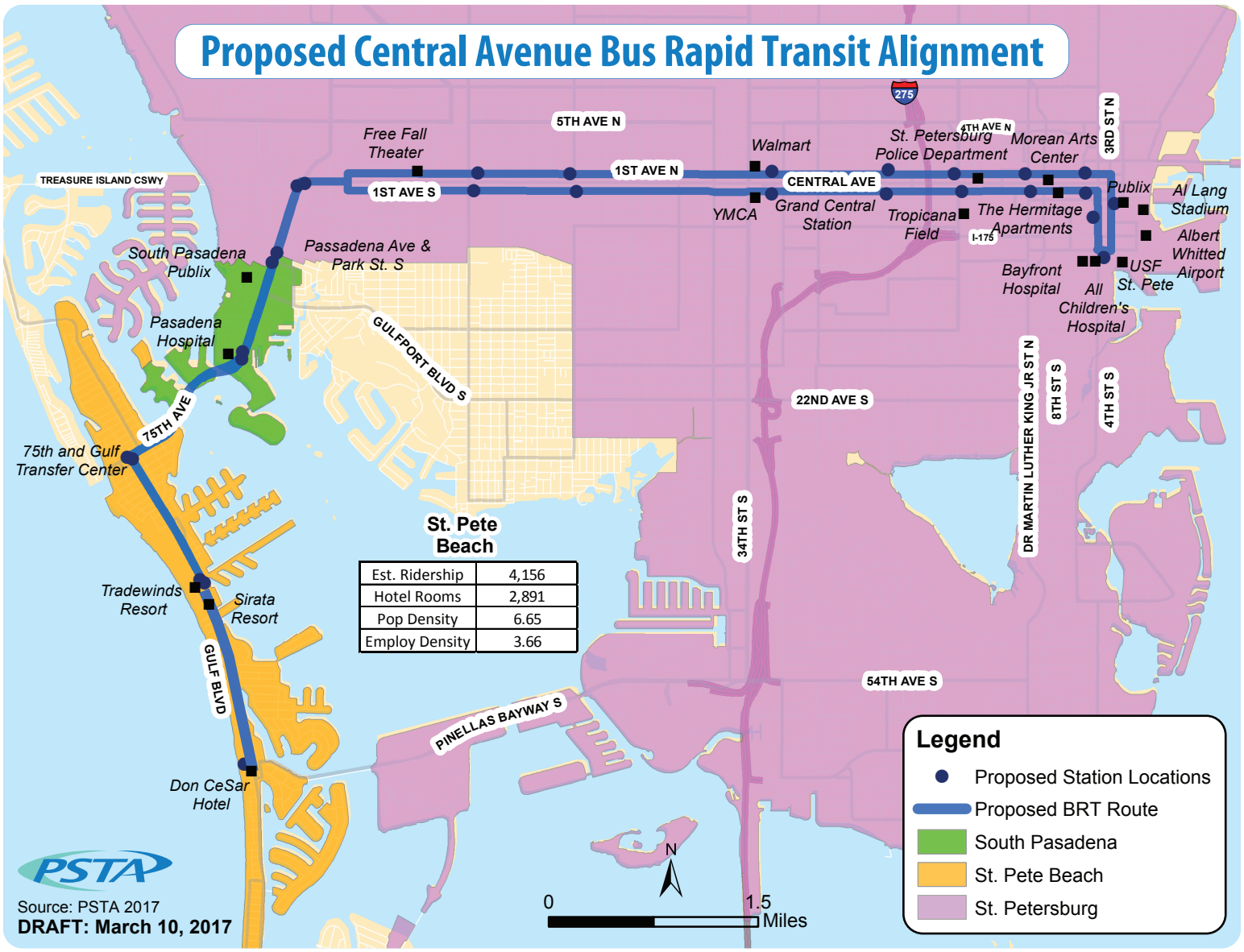
Fall 2020 – Begin Revenue Service

Proposed Capital Funding



PSTA.NET

Proposed Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit Alignment



Serves Major Employers, Destinations, and Residential Areas:

- Downtown St. Petersburg's medical center and other major medical facilities.
- University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- Restaurants and shops
- Museums, Performing Arts Center and arts districts
- Tropicana Field
- Tourist destinations/employment on the Beaches
- Special events downtown and on the Beaches

Service Facts:

- Length of Route: 9-11miles
- City of St. Petersburg Dedicated Right-of-Way along 1st Ave. N. and 1st Ave. S.
- Proposed Stops: 11-13 in each direction
- Proposed Frequency: Bus every 15 minutes
- Proposed Service Span: 5am-midnight
- Total Number of Vehicles: 5-7
- Total Capital Cost: $18-20M
- # of Jobs within ½ mile of Corridor: 40K
- # of People within ½ mile of Corridor: 31K

Supported By:

- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
- City of St. Petersburg
- Pinellas County
- St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce
- St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership
- Central Avenue Business District
- Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber
- Tampa Bay Rays Baseball
- Pinellas MPO (Forward Pinellas)
- Tampa International Airport (TIA)

Supports Community Plans and Investments:

- City of St. Petersburg Central Avenue Revitalization Plan
- Central Avenue Art in Transit Project ($2.8-$4M+ City Investments)
- St. Petersburg City-Chamber Economic Development Initiatives

Brad Miller, PSTA Chief Executive Officer
Office: (727) 540-1807
Cell: (727) 459-9697
Email: bmiller@psta.net

April 12, 2017

6E. Joe's Creek Greenway Trail Alignment Study

SUMMARY

Under the Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH) grant program, Forward Pinellas received funds through the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County for specific projects designed to encourage physical activity and more active lifestyles that will reduce obesity and other chronic diseases. The initial projects to increase walking and bicycling included improved wayfinding, bicycle repair stations, and automatic trail counters.

This year, the Department of Health in Pinellas County has granted Forward Pinellas funds to determine a preferred trail alignment study for Joe's Creek Greenway Trail as identified in the Forward Pinellas Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan (http://forwardpinellas.org/wpcontent/uploads/2016/10/BikePedFac-Element.pdf). The alignment study will be documented in a final trail alignment report with trail alternative plans, illustrative sections/sketches, narrative, and an opinion of probable construction costs for the preferred alternative. The proposed paved trail shall be 12 feet wide and meandering to the greatest extent possible unless otherwise dictated by unavoidable constraints, in which case a trail width of less than 12 feet may be used but in no case shall the trail width be less than eight feet. A trail that is eight feet in width is highly undesirable but may be necessary due to the physical constraints along the study corridor. Based on the nature of the existing conditions it is possible that the shared use trail design may include a combination of on-road and off-road bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

This study will be an integral part of our multimodal transportation planning process that aims to achieve a healthy and safe route for bicycle and pedestrian travel from Joe's Creek Neighborhood Greenway to the Pinellas Trail and surrounding communities. Forward Pinellas is coordinating this study with the Pinellas County Planning Department that is contributing nearly $35,000 in funding for a total project cost of about $88,000. The project is scheduled to be completed by May 31, 2017.

Forward Pinellas' consultant, AECOM, will be presenting a slideshow of the inventory, analysis and proposed route alternatives.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; informational item only

April 12, 2017

6F. Work Session Wrap-Up/Strategic Communications Plan

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

SUMMARY

The board work session on March 31 included direction on setting performance measures and targets and revising the Transit-Oriented Land Use Vision Map. In addition, the new Strategic Communications Plan draft was introduced, but the board did not have time to discuss it.

This item will present a few takeaways from the work session as well as re-introduce the Strategic Communications Plan for discussion and direction.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Work Session Summary
- Strategic Communications Plan Draft

ACTION: Board to approve the Strategic Communications Plan

Forward Pinellas Board Work Session March 31, 2017

The following is a summary of the Forward Pinellas Board Work Session held on March 31, 2017 at the St. Petersburg College Clearwater Campus, 2465 Drew Street, RM ES 104, Clearwater, FL 33763.

1. **CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**
   Chairman Morroni called the session to order at 9:08 am and asked the board members present to introduce themselves. Chairman Morroni gave special welcome acknowledgement to Bill Jones, FDOT Director, for attending the session. Whit also gave a welcome acknowledgement to CAC and TCC Committee members for attending.

2. **FORWARD PINELLAS' STRATEGIC PLANNING DIRECTION**
   Whit Blanton, executive director, presented Forward Pinellas's Strategic Planning Direction. Whit shared his recommendations on the directions Forward Pinellas should start taking toward addressing the challenges and opportunities for transportation and land use growth.

   - Considerable amount of staff time and community engagement time has been spent on three emphasis areas, U.S. 19 Corridor Vision, Mid-County/Gateway Area Master Planning Effort and Enhancing Beach Community Access with successful outcomes to date.
   - We have learned our top issues are communications and coordination. Overall goals are to reach a balanced transportation network minimizing environmental and neighborhood impacts; land use and transportation should build on the concept of "20 minute neighborhoods" where multi-modal transportation can flourish through connected transportation networks.
   - Tapping into Pinellas County's future beginning with strategic focus on engaging more with the community and business; ways to retain our youth or attract younger workers and families to us, and develop partnerships and leverage our resources.

   Adapt – **B**uild – **C**onnect:

   - **Adapt**ing to change:
     - responding to a shifting economic market
     - need for workforce development
     - bringing in jobs to diversify our economy
     - changing demographics
     - updating our technology

- Policy environment changing rapidly at federal and state levels
    - Changes are making us less reliant on federal and state governments
- Government incentives for private investments in our infrastructure we should support and encourage
- MPO 2.0 links land use and transportation; means regional leadership, align policies and promote a clear compelling vision
- Clear predictable funding to incentivize local and regional actions
- Set a target for a more balanced transportation network, and program projects that will achieve that target

- **Build** – guiding planned growth to the right location
    - building community and capacity and credibility and consensus
    - building trust
    - building connected networks
    - satisfy the community needs
- Examples of how we are building:
    - City of Clearwater creates its U.S.19 Zoning District & Development Standards, encouraging the private sector to shoulder a lot of the burden in building, adapting and connecting the community
    - 54th Street Avenue N is a Complete Streets concept to enhance safety and access all modes of transportation
    - Joes Creek Corridor Trail Alignment would establish a multimodal option to link housing, services, recreation and jobs
    - Skyway Marine District sidewalks from 30th Ave S to 54th Ave S, aligns with FDOT resurfacing plan
- Clear & unified message respecting the character and culture of Pinellas County

- **Connect –** to strengthen our transportation networks for all modes
    - developing complementary regional transit services
    - grow daily ridership
    - connecting the community thru transit
- Creating a well-defined network with continuity of flow
- Reallocating space and resources, setting priorities and developing strong partnerships

Working Vision

- Map illustrating the 20 minute neighborhood concept
- Accessible communities and connected networks
- Strategic investments
- Retain Pinellas County's and its communities' unique character and culture

Keys to Success

- Vision
- Compelling plan
- Clarify visions, missions, roles & responsibilities
- Demonstrate accountability & transparency
- Report progress to challenges

3. <u>TRANSIT-ORIENTED LAND USE VISION MAP</u>

Rodney Chatman, planning division manager, presented Transit-Oriented Land Use Vision

Map. When you look at Pinellas County in terms of other areas in the state and around the country, we are not particularly dense or urban, we are generally a suburban county. There are limited vacant parcels due to developmental challenges such as wetlands or easements or contamination. However, Pinellas County has developed over the years into a series of typical suburban neighborhoods. Pinellas by Design is an economic development & redevelopment plan for Pinellas County; a five year vision effort approved by the Pinellas Planning Council and the Board of County Commissioners in 2005. The idea was to move all growth into centers, corridors and districts that can be served by transit, while maintaining established neighborhoods. One of the strategies to implement the vision of Pinellas by Design is to take a fresh look at the Countywide Plan. A new plan was developed and adopted in the last 18 months that codified the centers, corridors and districts framework and linked those areas to transportation investments contained in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) which included the Greenlight Pinellas plan, and improvements made to streamline the countywide planning process. The question was posed as to why the Greenlight Alignment is still on the Transit-Oriented Land Use Vision Map? The Board agreed to keep the Greenlight Alignment as a symbolic commitment to future transit planning.
On the New Countywide Plan there are six points to remember:

- Transit-Oriented Land Use Vision Map is part of the Countywide Plan Strategies
- Transit-Oriented Land Use Vision Map identifies those enhanced bus service corridors as Multimodal Corridors that were part of the Greenlight Plan
- Recognizes activity centers and community redevelopment areas as Activity Centers where higher levels density and intensity would be allowed
- New Activity Centers to be established at the intersections of Multimodal Corridors
- Identifies the Greenlight Pinellas proposed light rail corridor with station areas designated as special type of Activity Center called Transit Station Centers
- Transit Station Center standards allows for higher density (pre-approval from local governments required)

The LRTP estimates population growth of 64,000 with a job growth of 50,000 over the planning horizon. This growth will not happen automatically but will occur based on aligning the highest and best land use, available capital, fixed construction costs/potential rents and focus on achieving the desired outcomes.

The regulatory function of the Transit-Oriented Land Use Vision Map works as intended, but it is not self-explanatory or citizen-friendly and it is difficult to amend as our vision grows. Planners Advisory Committee (PAC) is in favor of a more simplified map that would be easier to communicate our overall vision and possibly change the name.

It was requested of the board to share their thoughts on 1) how we should adapt our land use policies to ensure that major investments transits such as the Central BRT are successful, 2) how we should adapt our land use policies to position waterborne transportation for success, 3) how we should adapt our land use policies to position Cable/Aerial Transit for success? What about PSTA routes that operate with 15-20 minutes headway during the week?

Options to consider on the Greenlight Rail Project are to maintain the alignment on the map, removed from the map or remove and replace with another planned transit investment.

After discussions from the board on this subject, it was agreed that it may be premature to remove the Greenlight alignment pending the completion of the Regional Premium Transit Plan, which is being conducted by Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART). Also because there is current work being done in relation to CSX, it was suggested to keep the vision map name intact for reference to regional transit projects but unmold the Greenlight Rail Project from the vision map. It was also suggested that since there was support for data that went into the development of the Greenlight rail project at the time, the project may need a second look on a regional level with more communication and a better funding source before it is removed. It was also stated in order for transportation to be successful, success stories are needed when talking to the people about what transit is, and the Greenlight rail project is not a success story. Also suggested was to emphasize the work we are doing through success stories and bring the counties together as a whole; communicate more with the people to get their ideas of what transit is and simplify the vision map.

In an answer to one specific question, Rodney answered that staff is in support of a broader definition of premium transit but there are county rules and regulations that would need to be amended to allow for such.

4. <u>PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND TARGETS</u>

Chelsea Favero, Forward Pinellas principal planner, reviewed Performance Measures and Targets with the board as they relate to Pinellas County and the region. We must prioritize projects that help meet established targets and reflect 'what is best for the region?' As Forward Pinellas begins to work on the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), we need to set our vision and performance targets, and define the strategies to reach it. As we set the priorities of the transportation projects that will go into the LRTP plan and match up the funding, we want to make sure that the projects we are selecting help us meet the measures and the targets we are setting for transportation and land use. In light of our policy direction, we want to look at projects that support more multimodal strategies that encourage people to walk, bicycle and use transit.

At this time, the Board was directed to a couple of exercises to obtain member input to guide development of performance measures and targets for the agency. The board was asked to take three to five minutes and write down as many thoughts or ideas on "what does success look like to you?" At the end of the time given, members were asked one by one to read and comment on their written thoughts or ideas.

The comments were written on charts and displayed. The board was then asked to take the three paper dots they were given and to place a dot next to the thoughts or ideas they felt were most important for prioritizing purposes.

Whit then asked the board to participate in an abbreviated S.W.O.T (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis to help get to three priorities they feel are achievable targets in our performance based planning. The board identified the following areas of emphasis:

- Public buy-in of a multimodal transportation system
- Smoothly flowing multimodal transportation system with no wait times coordinated and sustainable
- Having success stories that others point to as an example

Strengths:

- Local government buy-in
- Good plans to build on
- Failed effort to learn from
- Positive attitude w/staff, agencies

Weaknesses

- Messaging
- Lack of public buy-in
- Too many agencies involved
- Local transportation system of success
- Stale perception of government
- Communication

Opportunities/Threats

- T – Funding – BRT w/federal funding threat
- T - Loosing younger generation to better opportunities
- T – Are we attractive enough
- O/T – Legislation understanding knowing our concise message
- O/T – Settling with just being good
- O/T – The Unknown
- O/T – Planning requirement cycle / tactical short term

5. <u>STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS PLAN</u>

Hilary Lehman, communications and outreach manager, discussed Forward Pinellas' new Strategic Communications Plan. A strategic communications plan would allow us to be seen as a responsible leader and an effective communicator with our partners and the public; to increase awareness of who we are and be the go to source for county planning data and analysis. Hilary provided the board with a draft communications plan that can be later reviewed.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting with a short announcement reminding everyone that Whit and he will not be at the next board meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

Forward Pinellas Strategic Communications Plan

2017

FORWARD PINELLAS | 310 COURT STREET, CLEARWATER, FL 3356

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1 INTRODUCTION

Forward Pinellas is the land use and transportation agency for Pinellas County. It was formed through the unification of the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC) and the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in 2014, and requires several distinct follow-up actions that, together, will align staff operations and enable the new organization to achieve its mission. The Special Act authorizing the unification of the PPC and MPO recognizes that transportation and land use planning do not exist independently but have a relationship in which each influences the other.

The rationale for the Act states that given Pinellas County's land constraints, planned redevelopment of the built environment is critical to maintaining and improving the countywide economy and quality of life. Furthermore, countywide traffic issues must be addressed through continued development of its multimodal transportation system, supported by changes in development form that make walking, bicycling and use of public transportation more convenient, safe and accessible. The adoption of the new Countywide Plan in August 2015 (which was developed in coordination with the Long Range Transportation Plan) created a more streamlined countywide land use process, and set the foundation for a more effective alignment of land use and transportation to further countywide redevelopment and multimodal objectives.

With that desired shift in direction, effective communications is a critical component of Forward Pinellas's new role. Communication is necessary to raise awareness, increase understanding and support sound decision-making. The MPO has an adopted Public Participation Plan that documents how it will engage the public in the development and implementation of its plans and programs and help inform its transportation decisions. However, that document is intended to meet federal requirements. The Forward Pinellas Strategic Communications Plan is intended to provide a more broadly focused communications strategy designed to help the newly unified agency achieve its goals and mission.

The Forward Pinellas's Strategic Communications Plan aims to strengthen dialogue with the public and partner organizations. It is also intended to complement and reinforce the strategic policy objectives defined by the Forward Pinellas governing board. The Strategic Communications Plan will be carried out primarily by Forward Pinellas staff with the support of consultants as necessary.

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2 MISSION

Forward Pinellas's mission is to align resources with a compelling vision to improve the community and the Tampa Bay region. Forward Pinellas will increase awareness and strengthen understanding of issues and strategies important to an economically thriving, livable and sustainable Pinellas County.

3 OBJECTIVES

The plan sets forth the following objectives, which Forward Pinellas will use as a basis for developing strategies and evaluation measures to help gauge the plan's effectiveness and make adjustments in tactics that may be needed in the future:

1. Increase awareness of what Forward Pinellas is and does.
2. Use communication strategies to strengthen the understanding of and interactions between economic development, housing options, redevelopment and transportation.
3. Give the public a voice about what they want to see in their communities regarding transportation and land use design and activity.
4. Establish Forward Pinellas as the go-to source for countywide planning data and analysis.
5. Strengthen organizational partnerships to advance initiatives, projects and other strategies supporting the goals of the Countywide Land Use Plan and Long Range Transportation Plan.
6. Develop and reinforce consistent messaging that builds regional ties and presents the entire Tampa Bay region as a strong and growing whole.

4 STRATEGIES

4.1 DEFINE FORWARD PINELLAS IDENTITY AND CORE MESSAGE(S)

As a newly established agency, there is a need to present a fresh perspective and face to the community that reinforces our mission, roles and responsibilities. There is a strong identity with both the PPC and MPO as individual organizations based on their historical roles, affiliations and inter-agency relationships, but there was clear intent in the Special Act creating the unified PPC and MPO to recast

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that identity. Thus, Forward Pinellas will engage in a process to define its new brand identity and key supporting messages that will be used to reinforce the agency's new mission.

The brand identity will include the new agency name of Forward Pinellas (with respect to its official legal status as the Pinellas Planning Council and acknowledging the federal and state requirements pertinent to the MPO), logo mark and color palette. The branding will be used to reinforce Forward Pinellas's roles and responsibilities in important countywide issues (economic development, funding initiatives, emergency preparedness, climate change & adaptation, etc.), while increasing its name recognition and visibility among the public and stakeholder organizations. The branding initiative will complement the various strategies outlined in this Strategic Communications Plan, including heightened educational efforts and an increased emphasis on various forms of local government technical assistance.

Branding efforts will include:

- Logo polos for Forward Pinellas staff
- Tabletop displays and brochures to explain, at a glance, Forward Pinellas' identity and mission
- Forward Pinellas-branded giveaways for conferences and other events
- Attendance at outreach events that put Forward Pinellas staff in front of the public
- When possible, Forward Pinellas staff should request that partners use the full logo and refer to Forward Pinellas by that name on first reference rather than simply as the PPC or MPO. MPO and PPC are acceptable on second reference or to reference specific responsibilities they perform after the initial reference as Forward Pinellas.

Forward Pinellas will integrate the brand identity into its newly designed website, external publications, agenda materials and other outreach materials. The agency will conduct its business as the newly Forward Pinellas, with appropriate references to its function as the Pinellas Planning Council and the Pinellas Metropolitan Planning Organization whenever necessary.

4.2 Advocacy and Issue Awareness

An important part of this Strategic Communications Plan entails a heightened role in contributing to defining areas of policy or program emphasis, and policy priorities at the federal, state, regional and local levels. As the convener of Pinellas County's 25 local governments and various stakeholder agencies that are involved in transportation and land use decision-making, Forward Pinellas has an important role

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to play in ensuring a clear, coherent and consistent voice for public policies related to those topics that benefit Pinellas County. As such, we need to play a leadership role in defining issues of advocacy and where our focus should be in advancing the collective interests of Pinellas County and the region.

Forward Pinellas, in its role as the MPO, is not permitted to lobby federal and state officials with its use of federal funds; however, the MPO is able to use federal funds to raise awareness of issues and alternatives, educate the public and elected officials about the impacts of decisions and plan outcomes, and communicate priorities for important programs or projects in Pinellas County. In light of our unified agency and various funding sources, we can stay within our legal boundaries while working with our governing board and stakeholder agencies to define legislative priorities in cooperation with the MPOAC, APA Florida, Florida Association of Counties and Florida League of Cities. We will also look to raise awareness of different policy perspectives and options and seek funding for projects and initiatives that have the support of the board.

4.3 Take a Leadership Role in the Regional Cooperation Conversation

We are stronger as a well-connected and cooperative region, and developments to better connect Tampa Bay as a region can contribute to that goal if Forward Pinellas is a partner with a leadership role.

Communications surrounding regional cooperation efforts should seek to highlight and clarify:

1. How working together as a region may advance defined transportation priorities more quickly and smoothly for Pinellas County and the Tampa Bay region as a whole
2. Clarity of vision, mission, roles, and responsibilities, which is essential to success.
3. How increased transportation connectivity uniquely benefits Pinellas County residents (while also benefiting the region as a whole)
4. How integrated transportation and land use plans can effectively leverage the Tampa Bay region's economic strength and opportunities for everyone

In order to ensure that Forward Pinellas is an integral part of shaping our future as a county and a region, the communications staff of Forward Pinellas shall develop close working relationships with staff at agencies, including but not limited to:

- FDOT
- TMA Leadership Group
- Florida Legislature & representatives in Congress

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- TBARTA
- TBRPC
- HART and PSTA
- Tampa Bay Partnership
- St. Petersburg/Clearwater International Airport
- Hillsborough and Pasco MPOs
- Plan Hillsborough
- Tampa International Airport
- Local Chambers of Commerce

4.4 Emphasize Transportation & Land Use as Economic Drivers

Another important issue for Forward Pinellas to take part in shaping is economic development, as transportation connectivity and land use / development are integral to the success of the region. When possible, the economic impact (such as return on investment) of a project in dollars should be included in the communications regarding that project. In addition, "quality of life" calculators and similar tools now make it possible to quantify elements that were previously only qualitative, such as safety improvements to a road. Other communities may also be used as case studies to indicate a positive economic benefit for a similar project, such as the positive outcomes in communities with Bus Rapid Transit.

Critics of government-funded transportation projects sometimes cite economic concerns as their driving motivation. Forward Pinellas should look to understand their concerns and respond with data showing the economic benefits and value to these projects - short-term cost vs. long-term gain.

4.5 Create Memorable Messages

Given the complex nature and language surrounding transportation and land use issues, it is important that Forward Pinellas create simple and memorable message points using easily understandable language to explain what we do. One message that succinctly explains our message is Adapt-Build-Connect.

ADAPT

- Change is inevitable, and we plan for it
- Resilient in the face of challenges or threats

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- Respond to economic, social and cultural trends

BUILD

- Trust in the planning process by being reliable, accurate and responsive
- Foster a spirit of collaboration by sharing data, ideas, plans and resources (build lasting partnerships)
- Ensure cost effective infrastructure and guide quality development to the right places
- Build a connected network throughout the Pinellas and Tampa Bay region

CONNECT

- People to places, jobs and destinations
- Communities throughout the Tampa Bay region
- Use technology wisely to improve system efficiency and reliability

As issues change or arise, the message points may also change - one possible jumping-off point for messaging is the 2017 Pinellas County Economic Symposium, "Building a Destination of Choice."

4.6 Improve Internal Communications

Implementing the following may enable clearer communication internally:

- Develop a Sharepoint site to enable shared access to documents that are relevant to all staff members, to enable staff to access their work documents remotely, and to enable teamwork within the organization
- Develop an employee guide to internal policies
- Develop a style guide
- Clarify in writing where Forward Pinellas policies and procedures differ from the county's
- Allow a few administrative staff members access to the full staff list of Outlook calendars for meeting scheduling purposes
- Create a culture where supervisors meet one-on-one with employees at least monthly (separate from performance reviews)

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- Create a clear feedback chain, either electronically or in-person, that enables staff to go to one specific point of contact with their questions or concerns
- Look into “lighter” forms of electronic communication as opposed to “heavy” email, such as Skype or Slack
- Annual calendar of key events/milestones that drive our process, including:
    - Audit
    - Budget
    - Federal/State Deadlines for planning products
- Continue out-of-office events/activities to build team spirit, collaboration, and collegiality

5 SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

In its social media communications, Forward Pinellas should seek to be a likeable authority – one that enhances understanding but shows the human side of transportation and planning issues or projects. Goals for social media include making the planning process more open, inviting and interesting. To that end, using appropriate humor, commentary, or even gifs or memes may be acceptable – even necessary! Personality goes a long way toward building a social media audience. However, such tactics should always fit into the overall goal of helping followers and the public understand more about the planning process and/or Forward Pinellas as an organization. Being authentic and personable is important to Forward Pinellas’s online presence, but that authenticity should stem from the mission and goals of the organization, not just the employees behind the account.

On their personal accounts, Forward Pinellas employees may weigh in publicly on issues, but should avoid contradicting the agency’s position or taking a position that the agency has not yet decided on, as these employees will likely be seen as the face of Forward Pinellas. All employees shall also follow all personnel rules that may be applicable to commenting on Forward Pinellas social media sites and blogs. Planners and other agency employees should seek to follow the American Institute of Certified Planners Code of Ethics at all times.

The social networking programs and applications Forward Pinellas currently uses include Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. Forward Pinellas also uses its blog to interact with the public. Forward Pinellas anticipates expanding its use of social media on an ongoing basis to improve the reach and effectiveness

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of its communications initiatives. This policy will be revised as necessary to address issues that may arise in a rapidly changing social media environment.

A few guidelines for use of each social media platform where Forward Pinellas currently has accounts:

- Facebook: The catch-all social network with the widest variation in audience in terms of demographics and knowledge level. A great place to share photos, videos, event information, news articles, or blog posts. Ideal posting frequency is one to two times per day, with no more than three posts daily to avoid spamming followers. Content for Facebook should fairly informally written and understandable to the average Pinellas County resident with a minimum of "planner-speak" and avoidance of acronyms. If commenters ask direct questions about the content of the post, Forward Pinellas staff should respond once, but use subsequent posts to direct commenters to the info@forwardpinellas.org email. Currently, Facebook offers Forward Pinellas the widest opportunity for reach of any social media platform. We should avoid commenting or liking overtly political posts on Facebook as Forward Pinellas, and individual employees should use discretion on issues relating to agency work.
- Twitter: Twitter provides the ability to give real-time updates if needed, such as during meetings or news events. Videos and photos are less essential on Twitter than they are on Facebook, although they still contribute to the effectiveness of tweets and may become even more important as the social network evolves. Twitter posting can also be more frequent. Even posting multiple times an hour with relevant content would not be seen as spamming. "RTs do not signal endorsement" is included in the Twitter account bio, but care should still be taken when retweeting other accounts. Interaction with followers is probably the most essential on Twitter of any social network, because followers may feel that they are speaking into a void. Avoid, when possible, trying to communicate any issue over multiple tweets. If it cannot be communicated in 140 characters, Twitter probably is not the platform to use.
- LinkedIn: LinkedIn provides the ability to have more technical dialogue than on other platforms, because the Forward Pinellas audience there is likely to be well-informed with a high proportion of planners. Forward Pinellas can also post information related to open Forward Pinellas positions, planning careers, or planning articles on the LinkedIn page, although these should be mixed in with some more general interest posts.

The tone of Forward Pinellas's online presence should be one of helpful authority. Bit.ly shortened links should be used when possible in order to track link traffic.

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More guidelines are outlined in the full Forward Pinellas social media policy, updated in 2016.

6 MEASURES OF EFFECTIVENESS

We will measure the effectiveness of our communications through asking the following questions:

- Legislative guidance and support
    - Does our communication with lawmakers and other elected officials result in legislation and/or funding or legislative changes?
    - Do lawmakers and other elected officials repeat talking points accurately and consistently?
- Strategic plan
    - Are we meeting the goals and objectives that we outline?
    - Do the goals and objectives align with our board's stated priorities?
    - Do we hear the messaging articulated in the strategic plan echoed among our board, stakeholders, and staff?
- Stakeholder communications:
    - Do we receive feedback on the information we distribute to our stakeholders?
    - Does our communication with them offer unique insights as opposed to information they could receive elsewhere?
    - Does our open rate[1] meet or exceed the industry average?
    - Is our number of email subscribers growing consistently?
    - Are we regularly surveying members about issues of importance and getting a reasonable response rate (one-third or better?)
- Blog:
    - Are we posting at least two posts a month on varied topics?
    - Do we have both land use and transportation represented?
    - Are the posts generating discussion, both online and off?
- Social media communications:

[1] Open rate is defined as the percentage of people who open an email.

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- Have our various social media accounts been growing at a consistent rate, both in number of followers and engagement?
- Are we posting appropriate content for the specific social media platform?
- Does the content we are posting meet the objectives outlined at the beginning of this plan?
- What are our peers doing that may be equally or more successful?
- Are our posts being shared or retweeted?

7 Implementation Plan & Timeline

Current Forward Pinellas communication tools include social media accounts (Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn), the Forward Pinellas blog, and email communication. Building upon these tools and making use of other tools currently available, Forward Pinellas can expand its reach and communications impact in the coming years. While the implementation of this plan will be supervised by the Forward Pinellas Communications & Outreach Manager, the staff as a whole is key to ensuring its success.

The following is an implementation plan and timeline for several of the key initiatives mentioned in this plan.

7.1 Stakeholder Communications

- Communicate with our stakeholders
  - Description: Communicate with our stakeholders about projects, messages, and agency activity
  - Responsibility: Entire staff, with Hilary Lehman coordinating on the outreach or communication strategy for specific projects or plans
    - Legislative & Policy, Advocacy and Issue Awareness - Whit Blanton
    - Transportation - Sarah Ward, Al Bartolotta, Chelsea Favero, Robert Feigel
    - Land Use - Rodney Chatman, Linda Fisher, Alicia Parinello, Brett Burks
    - State of the System - Sarah Ward, Al Bartolotta, Chelsea Favero, Robert Feigel, Rodney Chatman, Linda Fisher, Alicia Parinello, Brett Burks
    - Transit - Sarah Caper
    - Bike/Ped - Sue Miller, Rodney Chatman

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        - Data Management - Sandra Cuddington, Marc Hanger
        - Agendas and General Information - Tina Jablon and Maria Kelly
        - Financials and Grants - Joann Jacobs, Rebecca Stysly, Sarah Caper
- Timeline: Rolling, depending on issue – coordinate communications by mid-2018

7.2 Advocacy and Public Policy

- Legislative Guidance and Support
    - Description: Define legislative issues and priorities each year, and develop a legislative action strategy for pursuing that agenda, including sharing information to educate elected officials at the federal, state and local levels, and working with our local and regional officials to coordinate activities with the Pinellas County and Tampa Bay Legislative Delegations.
    - Responsibility: Whit Blanton, with other staff members assisting
    - Timeline: Meetings with legislative officials ongoing throughout the year; information from Forward Pinellas distributed by the beginning of each Legislative Session
- Policy Perspectives
    - Description: Develop policy perspectives through our blog, white papers and PowerPoint presentations to articulate the trade-offs and considerations for land use and transportation policy initiatives.
    - Responsibility: Whit Blanton, with other staff members assisting
    - Timeline: Immediate and ongoing as issues arise
- Project Priorities and Funding
    - Description: Work with board to define key unfunded transportation project priorities and work with our federal, state, regional and local partners to increase awareness of needs, opportunities and outcomes that can be achieved.
    - Responsibility: Whit Blanton, with other staff members assisting
    - Timeline: Annually coinciding with work products and the fiscal year

7.3 Website Management

- Bring website in accordance with Sunshine Law

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    - Description: Multiple site updates make it difficult to keep records of what has changed and when. Reducing number of staff responsible for creating and approving updates will ensure compliance with public records statutes.
    - Responsibility: Hilary Lehman will make updates to the website, with Linda Fisher and Sarah Caper as backups
    - Timeline: Spring 2017
- Keep web documents and language current
    - Description: With a number of work products and documents on the website, the documents and language used to describe them can easily become out-of-date.
    - Responsibility: Staff members responsible for specific projects or work products will notify the website manager by email when those projects or products need to be updated. Administrative staff will eventually be fully responsible for posting agendas.
    - Timeline: Immediate and Ongoing

7.4 BLOG

- Update blog regularly
    - Description: Update blog with post a minimum of two times a month
    - Responsibility: Entire staff is encouraged to contribute to the blog, with Hilary Lehman as editor managing calendar and developing ideas
    - Timeline: Immediate and Ongoing
- Guest posts
    - Description: Expand blog to be a platform for other transportation and land use voices in the community, not solely Forward Pinellas, with a goal of every fifth blog post being written by a guest
    - Responsibility: Staff members should feel free to pitch guest post ideas related to projects they are working on, with Hilary Lehman coordinating before requesting the guest post
    - Timeline: Immediate and ongoing
- Profiles of success
    - Description: Develop profiles of “what’s working” - where things are getting better around our region

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- Responsibility: Staff members to generate ideas, Hilary Lehman to edit, and where desired write
- Timeline: Winter 2017 and ongoing

7.5 Social Media

- Update social media daily
  - Description: Update Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter daily in accordance with the agency's social media policy
  - Responsibility: Hilary Lehman will make updates to the social media accounts, with Sarah Caper and Alicia Parinello as backups
    - Input and suggestions for content are welcomed from all staff members
  - Timeline: Immediate and ongoing
- Partner with other groups
  - Description: Coordinate and partner with other groups or agencies on social media to create more dialogue
  - Responsibility: Staff who work with other groups/agencies and Hilary Lehman coordinating
  - Timeline: Fall 2017 and ongoing
- Use social media as public engagement tool
  - Description: Use social media to engage the public in response to Forward Pinellas projects (for instance, Q&A about State Road 60)
  - Responsibility: Project managers in coordination with Hilary Lehman
  - Timeline: Summer 2017 and ongoing

7.6 Video Communications

- Develop video communications
  - Description: Create videos to highlight specific projects or messages, especially with a focus on sharing on social media
  - Responsibility: Al Bartolotta, Alicia Parinello, and Hilary Lehman will create and edit videos, with suggestions for projects from staff
  - Timeline: Summer 2017 and ongoing

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7.7 SHAREPOINT

- Create SharePoint site
    - Description: Develop SharePoint as a resource for staff to communicate internally and externally.
    - Responsibility: Hilary Lehman will be the Sharepoint administrator, with Linda Fisher and Robert Feigel helping develop the site and acting as administrator backups.
    - Timeline: Small groups of staff working on specific projects as pilot rollout in Spring 2017 and office policy/procedure documents; staff-wide by Fall 2017.

7.8 EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

- Email marketing program
    - Description: Make use of an email marketing program, such as Constant Contact or similar, that allows tracking and analytics
    - Responsibility: Staff will vary depending on projects, with Hilary Lehman coordinating and editing email communications and administrative staff primarily responsible for maintaining contacts
    - Timeline: Have email marketing program in place by beginning of Summer 2017, ongoing
- Email updates and meeting summaries to stakeholders
    - Description: Write monthly emails summarizing key meetings, such as Forward Pinellas Board and TMA Leadership Group, for stakeholders
    - Responsibility: Hilary Lehman will draft emails, with Whit Blanton editing and other staff members providing input
    - Timeline: Immediate and Ongoing
- Internal email to staff
    - Description: Send an email at least twice a month to Forward Pinellas staff updating them on current happenings, both internally and externally
    - Responsibility: Whit Blanton
    - Timeline: Immediate and ongoing
- External newsletter
    - Description: Develop an external newsletter that goes out at least quarterly to highlight projects and achievements over the past few months

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- Responsibility: Hilary Lehman with content input from communications team and others
- Timeline: Fall 2017

7.9 Citizens Advisory Committee

- Expand Citizens Advisory Committee Role
  - Description: Work with the Citizens Advisory Committee to expand its role into one that gives the community a voice in specific projects with an annual summary presentation to the board (or as often as deemed necessary)
  - Responsibility: Robert Feigel, with assistance from others
  - Timeline: Spring 2017 and ongoing

7.10 Agency Outreach

- Coordinate messaging with other agencies
  - Description: Work with other regional transportation and land use planning agencies to promote mutually beneficial messages.
  - Responsibility: Aligns with stakeholder communications above.
  - Timeline: Summer 2017 and ongoing
- Meet with local governments
  - Description: Meet with each local government once a year, either formally at the council/commission or with staff
  - Responsibility: Whit Blanton
  - Timeline: Immediate and ongoing
- Transit partnerships
  - Description: Work with our transit partners at PSTA, HART, TBARTA and others to develop messaging that emphasizes the importance and value of public transit for the entire community
  - Responsibility: Sarah Caper, with messaging coordination and assistance from Hilary Lehman and Whit Blanton
  - Timeline: Summer 2017 and ongoing

7.11 Public Outreach

- Hold Library Talks

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    - Description: Hold library talks as a low-pressure opportunity for the community to discuss transportation/land use topics with a Forward Pinellas representative
    - Responsibility: Whit Blanton
    - Timeline: Summer and Fall 2017
- Use Web-Based Tools
    - Description: Investigate and choose web-based tools, such as e-town halls, Nextdoor, or Peak Democracy, for engaging the public
    - Responsibility: Al Bartolotta, with assistance from Hilary Lehman other staff members
    - Timeline: Fall 2017
- Develop relationships with community and business groups
    - Description: Increase coordination with community and business groups, such as neighborhood associations and chambers of commerce, in order to gain engagement from project areas
    - Responsibility: Hilary Lehman coordinating with other staff members
    - Timeline: Summer 2017 and ongoing

*A comprehensive list of methods and initiatives for community outreach related to transportation are outlined in the agency's Public Participation Plan.

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April 12, 2017

6G1. Committee Recommendations (BPAC)

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

SUMMARY

FLORIDA GREENWAYS & TRAILS SYSTEM (FGTS) PLAN OPPORTUNITY AND PRIORITY MAPS

At the March 20, 2017 meeting, the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) received a presentation on the process to update the Florida Greenways & Trails System (FGTS) Plan Opportunity and Priority Maps. The BPAC learned that this update occurs every three years and that the FGTS Plan is maintained by the Office of Greenways & Trails (OGT), which is a part of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

After an overview of the current FGTS Plan Opportunity and Priority Maps, the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority's (TBARTA) Regional Multi-Use Trail Map, and the Forward Pinellas Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan, Forward Pinellas staff recommended that the following trails with regional connectivity be added to the FGTS Plan network:

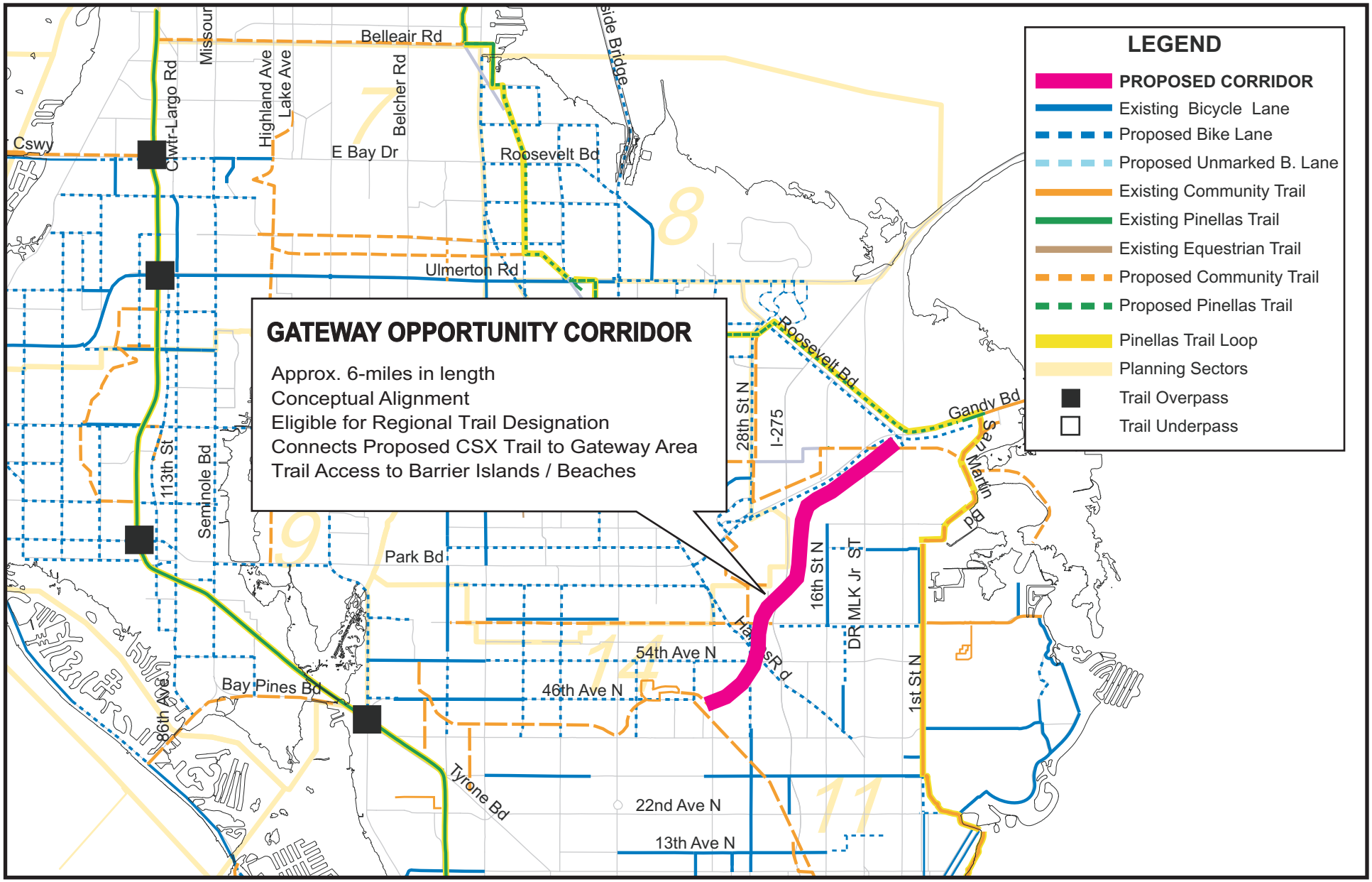
- Clearwater Beach Trail and Clearwater Beach Connector Trails
- Joe's Creek Neighborhood Trail
- CSX Trail
- Gateway Opportunity Corridor

After consideration of the staff recommendation, the BPAC voted to recommend the Oldsmar Trails, Elfers Spur Trail, Belleair Trail, CSX Trail, Joe's Creek Neighborhood Trail, and the Gateway Opportunity Corridor be included in the FGTS Plan network, with the understanding that the Lake Seminole Trail and a connection along West Bay Drive in Largo to the Belleair Causeway Trail would need to meet regional requirements before being added to the TBARTA Regional Multi-Use Trail Map. Furthermore, the BPAC recommended that the Forward Pinellas Board approve an amendment to the Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan to add the Gateway Opportunity Corridor, identified as a conceptual corridor from the CSX Trail to the Gateway area, since this is the only project that is not currently identified on the master plan.

ATTACHMENT(S): Map of the Gateway Opportunity Corridor

ACTION: Board, in its role as the metropolitan planning organization, to approve the BPAC recommendation to add the Gateway Opportunity Corridor to the Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the board approve the BPAC recommendation



PROPOSED AMENDMENT
COUNTYWIDE BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN

May 6, 2017 sjm

April 12, 2017

6G2. Committee Recommendations (BPAC)

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

SUMMARY

PENNY FOR PINELLAS SALES TAX REFERENDUM

At the March 20, 2017 meeting, the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) received an overview of Pinellas County's public outreach activities leading up to the Penny for Pinellas one-cent infrastructure sales tax referendum in November. The BPAC discussed the potential bicycle and pedestrian projects that could be funded with this revenue and voted to recommend to the Forward Pinellas Board that a letter be sent to the Board of County Commissioners supporting the upcoming vote and the utilization of Penny for Pinellas revenues to design, construct, and maintain the Pinellas Trail Loop.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: Board, in its role as the metropolitan planning organization, to approve the BPAC recommendation to send a letter to the Board of County Commissioners supporting the upcoming vote and the utilization of Penny for Pinellas revenues to complete the construction of the Pinellas Trail Loop

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the board approve the BPAC recommendation

April 12, 2017

7A1-3. Director's Report

The Executive Director will update the board members on the following items:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Director's Report
   1. SPOTlight Update
   2. April 7, 2017 TMA Leadership Group Summary
   3. Transportation Management Area (TMA) Federal Certification Update

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; informational item only

April 12, 2017

7B. Legislative Report

SUMMARY

As the 2017 Legislative Session continues, we will keep the Board updated on the progress of bills dealing with transportation, land use, and related planning issues. Summaries prepared by the Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Committee and the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association are attached for your reference. In addition, three bills of interest are summarized below with observations by Forward Pinellas staff.

CS/SB 1672: Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (Latvala – Co-Introducers Galvano; Rouson)

Creating the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee to replace the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee; revising the definition of the term "authority" to mean the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority and to include only Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties and any other contiguous county that is party to an agreement of participation; creating the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority, instead of the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority, etc. Committee Substitute passed the Transportation Committee. Now in Community Affairs Committee. Companion bill is CS/HB 1243 by Raulerson.

The legislation changes the governing board make-up and mission of TBARTA to focus on advancing transit system improvements within a smaller four-county geographic footprint of the Tampa Bay area. A 13-member governing board would be comprised of a county commissioner from each county, an elected representative of HART and the PSTA, the mayors of St. Petersburg and Tampa as the largest cities in the HART and PSTA areas, three appointees of the Governor, and one each from the President of the Florida Senate and Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, all of whom would represent the regional business community. The bill describes their terms and how a chair will be selected.

The bill requires TBARTA to evaluate the abolishment, continuance, modification, or establishment of its several committees, including the MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee, and prepare recommendations to the Senate President and House Speaker before the 2018 Legislative Session in January.

The bill authorizes TBARTA to produce a Regional Transit Development Plan (TDP) that integrates the transit development plans of the four counties to include a prioritization of regionally significant transit projects and facilities. A plan to produce the Regional TDP is required to be presented to the Senate President and House Speaker before the beginning of the 2018 Session. There are few other substantive changes.

Observations, Issues and Questions:

- This legislation is an important step in the right direction. A stronger regional focus and decision-making structure on developing, funding and operating regional transit service across county lines is long overdue. Other regions in the country with advanced regional transit networks have benefitted from state legislative leadership to create policy, program, funding and oversight mechanisms. Florida has lagged behind many of our western competitors in that regard.
- The bill largely follows the policy outlines of the Eno Foundation report prepared for the Tampa Bay Partnership several months ago, which recommends both a merger of the several MPOs in

West Central Florida and creation of a single umbrella agency addressing regional transit planning, operations and programming activities, with existing transit providers continuing to operate as independent agencies underneath. It is worth noting that the issues of regional transit planning and funding are statewide in nature and not unique to Tampa Bay.

- By removing an MPO seat from the TBARTA board and creating uncertainty about the role of the MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee, the bill potentially further separates transit planning from multimodal transportation planning done through the metropolitan planning process. The bill does not recognize any clear role for an MPO or MPOs in the preparation and approval of the Regional Transit Development Plan, which is necessary for federal funding and strongly encouraged by state transportation planning policy.
- The bill leaves many decisions until the 2018 Legislative Session, which gives time for regional stakeholders to develop consensus on recommendations for how this agency would function, and how state funding sources may evolve to better support regional transit initiatives.
- The bill does not address key concerns about TBARTA's financial status which limit its effectiveness, primarily due to the lack of a consistent funding source to operate the agency and carry out its planning activities.
- The bill does not explain how a Regional Transit Development Plan would be different from existing TDPs required to be updated annually under Florida Statutes for transit agencies to be eligible to receive Public Transit Block Grant funds. A major update occurs every five years. There is no apparent streamlining of agency responsibilities in preparing multiple TDPs for each county and the region.
- The bill does not provide information about how the Regional TDP would position the area to receive state, federal or local funding. A key issue in Florida is the unavailable or unpredictable nature of state funding for regionally significant transit projects, which is an adopted policy position of the Florida MPO Advisory Council.

In summary, the bill holds promise in creating a better regional decision-making forum that includes representatives of the regional business community, existing transit providers, county government and the two largest cities in the region. However, it lacks clear legislative intent in how the new organization would position transit projects for state and federal funding, and clarifying the role of MPOs in assisting in the development and funding of transit priorities. The role of the MPO or MPOs in a revamped TBARTA should be clarified to be consistent with state and federal requirements, to help build regional consensus on regional transit priorities, and to ensure a true multimodal connected network of transportation facilities and services that aligns with regional and countywide transportation planning efforts.

CS/HB 17: Local Regulation Preemption (Careers and Competition Subcommittee – Co-Introducers Fine; Renner)

Local Regulation Preemption; Prohibits certain local governments from imposing or adopting certain regulations on businesses, professions, & occupations after certain date; preempts to state regulations concerning businesses, professions, & occupations; provides exceptions to preemption. Now in Commerce Committee. Does not have a companion bill.

Legal Observations by Forward Pinellas attorney Chelsea Hardy:

- If passed, local governments and special districts will be preempted from adopting new rules and regulations regulating a business, profession, or occupation, unless expressly authorized by general law. Previous regulations not authorized by general law will also expire in 2020.

- Forward Pinellas, in its role as the PPC, regulates land use, not businesses, professions, or occupations. The land use regulations in the countywide rules may affect the location of certain

businesses, occupations, etc., but the rules do not directly regulate the specific businesses themselves.

- Further, the PPC was granted specific powers by special act and the bill does not expressly state that this or other special acts will be repealed.

- Finally, local governments are granted the power by general law to develop comprehensive plans and zoning regulations; it would be a strange result if local governments were able to regulate land use but not special districts with existing specific power to do so. In my opinion, the bill would not affect the countywide rules.

- With that said, however, there are some opinions out there that believe land use and zoning regulations by local governments and special districts could be affected.

CS/SB 1086 (Transportation Subcommittee; Garcia)

Authorizing community transportation coordinators, in cooperation with the coordinating board, to plan for and use regional fare payment systems under certain circumstances which enhance cross-county mobility for specified purposes for certain persons who are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation; requiring each coordinating board to evaluate multicounty or regional transportation opportunities to include regional fare payment systems, when available, which enhance cross-county mobility for specified purposes for such persons, etc. Passed Transportation Committee. Now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development. Companion bill is HB 881 filed by Watson and is in the Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee.

This legislation adds language to the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Community Transportation Coordinators' (CTCs') powers and duties to include planning for and using regional fare payment systems and enhancing cross-county mobility. Local coordinating boards also become responsible for evaluating these opportunities. The current TD language requires the evaluation of multicounty or regional transportation opportunities. These changes expand upon the current language and introduce regional fare payment systems.

Observations, Issues and Questions:

- The Tri-County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Subcommittee has identified regional paratransit service across county lines as a priority, as well as implementing a regional bus pass at a reasonable cost and promoting regional transportation initiatives serving the transportation disadvantaged.
- The bill does not address the coordination required between CTCs when there are multiple CTCs involved in crossing county lines. CTCs may or may not be transit providers or utilize bus passes for providing transportation and have different relationships with each other.
- Payment/reimbursement, pick up and drop off are all potential considerations. Is the CTC corresponding with the individual's residence responsible? How are efficiencies maximized between CTCs?
- The language refers to utilizing regional fare payment systems when available and cost-effective. It does not address any changes to the CTC's funding structure and reimbursement rates, nor what should be considered or encouraged to be considered when analyzing cost-effectiveness.
- Many of the CTCs face funding challenges. These do not seem to be addressed in this bill.

In summary, the bill holds promise for potentially expanding services to the TD. However, it does not address many of the logistical questions nor provide clear incentives for encouraging cross-county travel.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Committee Legislative Update
- Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association Legislative Update

ACTION: None required; informational item only

MPOAC The Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council

Mayor Susan Haynie
Chair

Legislative Update for the week ending 03/31/2017

Overview

Greetings Readers! There are only 35 more days until session is scheduled to adjourn. We will have to see if both chambers can adjourn on time or not. It is looking more questionable as time (and issues) go on……..

The Senate and the House showed their fundamental differences in their approachs to gambling options in the State of Florida. The Senate passed SB 8, a pari-mutuel industry friendly gambling proposal. The bill would allow eight counties to offer slot machines (voters have already approved them in these counties), legalize certain card games which are at the heart of a legal battle with the Seminoles (at this time blackjack is allowed) and allow nearly all tracks and jai alai venues to do away with live racing or games, a process known as "decoupling. The House passed an extension of the 20 year agreement which is sort of already in place with the Seminole Tribe, and known as "the compact". The compact actually expired back in 2015, the State and the Seminole Tribe have continued to operate under the expired agreement terms. The two chambers are miles apart on this issue and billions apart on the budget.

So what about that budget? The House and Senate are about $2 Billion apart on their budgets, and you could count it as $4 Billion if you look closely. Meanwhile, the House Speaker and the Governor are still locking horns about business incentives and the heat in this feud seems to be increasing. The difference in amounts in the two budgets being advanced is actually more like a $4 Billion dollar difference, the House is counting $2 Billion worth tuition in their budget (which is $2 Billion lower than the Senate version) and the Senate is not counting the $2 Billion of tuition the state receives in their budget. This makes for a spending difference of $4 Billlion! That is a pretty significant difference in starting points when we are talking about a budget around $82 Billion. When the two chambers sit down to work out their differences this will certainly be one of the elephants in the room. The other issue is the Senate proposal to fund Enterprise Florida at $80 Million and Visit Florida at $76 Million. The House Speaker views Enterprise Florida as corporate welfare and the House is suggesting a budget for Enterprise Florida of $0. The House would eliminate Enterprise Florida and has put into their budget building effort $25 Million for Visit Florida.

For budget issues, and something that will further complicate the two chambers ability to adjourn on time, is the issue of local funding of schools. The Senate views property tax revenue increases due to rising home values as a potential source of revenue increase because the millage rate does not change. The House sees any increase as a tax increase and House Speaker Corcoran was quoted earlier in the session as saying "Hell No!" on tax increases. Regulars are estimating the odds of an on-time adjournment at 50/50.

In other news this week, Speaker Corcoran won a legislative battle by getting legislation passed that would limit Supreme Court Justices and Appeals Courts Judges to two consecutive terms. It still has to pass the Senate, good luck on that. The US Senate had passed a bill to revoke the MPO Collaboration and Planning Area

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Reform Rulemaking a few weeks back. The companion bill was presented in Committee in the US House. The companion bill was marked up and now advances to the Full House floor for consideration. The Senate bill may be presented for a vote on the House Floor, if it passes the House then it would move onto the President's desk. It would be hard to imagine that the President would not want to sign something that undoes work by his predecessor. US Representatives from Florida need to hear from you, MPOAC opposed the initial rulemaking.

We will catch up with you next week – I hope you enjoyed this edition of the Legislative Update!

Lastly, this issue of the Legislative Update, as all issues do, contains changes to bill status or bills that are new to this Legislative Update in RED for your ease of discerning changes from the previous edition. For a fast read, look for the changes in RED.

Meetings of interest next week

Monday
Senate Community Affairs Committee
House Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee

Tuesday
Senate Full Session
Senate Transportation Committee

Wednesday
Senate Appropriations
House Appropriations

Thursday
Senate Appropriations
Senate Full Session

Friday
Both the House and Senate are not meeting this day

Legislation of interest to the membership

Changes from last update are shown in RED

HB 47: Texting While Driving – (Stark; Slosberg - CO-INTRODUCERS: McGhee; Smith) - Revises penalties for violations of Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law; provides enhanced penalties for such violations when committed in school zone or school crossing; removes requirement that specified provisions be enforced as secondary action by law enforcement agency. HB 545 which is the agency bill for Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles also contains penalties for texting while driving.

SB 66: Highway Safety – (Clemens) - Deleting the definition of the term "vulnerable road user"; revising provisions relating to the overtaking and passing of a vehicle; exempting bicycles from provisions for passing a vehicle on the right under certain circumstances; providing penalties for specified infractions contributing to bodily injury of a vulnerable user of a public roadway or a vulnerable user, etc. Withdrawn - Similar to SB 408

HB 69: Use of Wireless Communications Devices while Driving – (Slosberg - CO-INTRODUCERS: Baez; McGhee; Smith) - Provides for primary enforcement of Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law for drivers age 18 or younger; requires deposit of fines into Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund.

HB 139: Local Tax Referenda – (Ingoglia; Avila - CO-INTRODUCERS: Donalds; Gruters; Massullo) – (Companion Bill SB 278 – Steube) - Requires local government discretionary sales surtax referenda to be held on the date of a general election. Passed Local, Federal and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee. Now in Ways and Means Committee. Companion bill introduced (SB278) and assigned to committees but has not been heard in committees.

SB 144: Use of Wireless Communications Devices While Driving – (Garcia; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Campbell ; Perry) - Revising the legislative intent relating to the authorization of law enforcement officers to stop motor vehicles and issue citations to persons who are texting while driving; deleting a provision requiring that enforcement of the Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law be accomplished only as a secondary action; requiring deposit of fines into the Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund, etc. Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations. Passed Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities. Passed Transportation Committee, now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development.

SB 178: Traffic Infraction Detectors – (Artiles - CO-INTRODUCERS: Brandes; Mayfield) – (Very similar to HB 6007 – Avila; Ingoglia; Diaz, M) - Repealing provisions relating to the definitions of "local hearing officer" and "traffic infraction detector" and to the installation and use of traffic infraction detectors to enforce specified provisions when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal, provisions that authorize the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, a county, or a municipality to use such detectors, and the distribution of penalties collected for specified violations, etc. Did not pass Transportation Committee – Laid on Table.

SB 180: Traffic Infraction Detectors – (Rodriguez) - Decreasing the penalty to be assessed and collected by the department, county, or municipality if a traffic infraction detector is used to enforce specified violations when a driver failed to stop at a traffic signal; prohibiting the suspension of a person's driver license and privilege to drive or the withholding of the license plate or revalidation sticker for failure to pay certain penalties under certain circumstances, etc.

HB 221: Transportation Network Companies – (Sprowls) - Provides that transportation network company (TNC) driver is not required to register certain vehicles as commercial motor vehicles/for-hire vehicles; requires TNC to designate & maintain agent for service of process; provides fare requirements & requirements for TNC's digital network; provides for electronic receipt; provides automobile insurance requirements & requirements for specified proof of coverage; provides disclosure requirements for TNC driver in event of accident; requires TNC to cause its insurer to issue certain payments directly to certain parties; requires TNC to make specified disclosures in writing to TNC drivers; authorizes specified insurers to exclude certain coverage; provides that right to exclude coverage applies to coverage included in automobile insurance policy; provides that specified automobile insurers have right of contribution against other insurers that provide automobile insurance to same TNC drivers in satisfaction of certain coverage requirements under certain circumstances; requires TNC to provide specified information to certain parties during claims coverage investigation; requires certain insurers to disclose specified information to other insurer involved in claim; provides that TNC drivers are independent contractors if specified conditions are met; requires TNC to implement zero-tolerance policy for drug/alcohol use; provides TNC driver requirements; requires TNC to conduct background check for TNC driver; prohibits TNC driver from accepting certain rides or soliciting/accepting street hails; requires TNC to adopt nondiscrimination policy & notify TNC drivers of policy; requires TNC drivers to comply with nondiscrimination policy & applicable laws regarding nondiscrimination & accommodation of service animals; prohibits TNC from imposing additional charges for providing services to persons who have physical

disabilities; requires TNC to maintain specified records; specifies that TNCs, TNC drivers, & TNC vehicles are governed exclusively by state law; prohibits local governmental entities & subdivisions from taking specified actions; provides applicability & construction. Passed both Committees on 1st reading before the full House. On Special Calendar in the House for 04/04/2017.

SB 250: High-occupancy Toll Lanes and Express Lanes – (Artiles) - Specifying that the Department of Transportation may only collect tolls on high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes for the discharge of certain bond indebtedness on a project existing before a specified date; requiring that the tolls be eliminated after discharge of the project's bond indebtedness, etc. Passed Transportation Committee with a Committee Substitute. Now in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development. Companion Bill HB 777.

SB 308: Expressway Authorities – (Artiles) - Repealing provisions relating to the Florida Expressway Authority Act and related provisions, which allows the creation and operation of expressway authorities; transferring the governance and control of any expressway authority formed under the Florida Expressway Authority Act to the Florida Turnpike Enterprise; requiring revenues collected on the expressway system to be considered turnpike revenues, etc. Withdrawn.

SB 340: Transportation Network Companies - (Brandes – CO-INTRODUCER: Galvano) - Providing that a transportation network company (TNC) driver is not required to register certain vehicles as commercial motor vehicles or for-hire vehicles; providing requirements for a TNC's digital network; providing that specified automobile insurers have a right of contribution against other insurers that provide automobile insurance to the same TNC drivers in satisfaction of certain coverage requirements under certain circumstances, etc. Referred to three Committees. The Banking and Insurance Committee moved a committee substitute forward. Committee Substitute on 1st reading in the Judiciary Committee.

SB386: High-Speed Passenger Rail Service – (Mayfield – CO-INTRODUCER: Gainer) – Companion Bill (HB 269) - Citing this act as the "Florida High-Speed Passenger Rail Safety Act"; providing minimum safety standards for high-speed passenger rail; providing certain requirements for railroad companies before operating a high-speed passenger rail system; requiring a railroad company operating a high-speed passenger rail system to be solely responsible for all rail corridor improvements or upgrades relating to its operation and safety, etc. Referred to three Committees. The Transportation Committee approved a committee substitute. A committee substitute was brought forward by the Community Affairs Committee and was sent back to Transportation, it is on first reading in the Transportation Committee.

SB408: Highway Safety – (Passidomo) - Deleting the definition of the term "vulnerable road user"; revising provisions relating to the overtaking and passing of a vehicle; exempting bicycles from provisions for passing a vehicle on the right at the bicycle rider's own risk with no liability to other motor vehicle drivers under certain circumstances; specifying that a bicycle is a vehicle under Florida law and shall be operated in the same manner as any other vehicle, etc. Referred to three Committees.

SB 428: Local Government Participation in the Florida Retirement System – (Brandes) – Requires that new participants in the Florida Retirement System (including MPO employees) may only participate in the defined contribution portion of the FRS. Companion Bill HB 353. Both bills have been filed and assigned to three committees. Passed Community Affairs Committee, in Government Oversight and Accountability Committee.

SB 460: Personal Delivery Devices – (Brandes) - Authorizing the operation of personal delivery devices within county or municipal jurisdictions under certain circumstances; prohibiting the operation of personal delivery devices on the Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network; requiring a personal delivery device operator to maintain an insurance policy that provides general liability coverage of at least a specified amount for damages arising from the operation of a personal delivery device; exempting personal delivery devices from

certain registration and insurance requirements, etc. Referred to three committees, passed Transportation Committee, now in Banking and Insurance Committee. On the Banking and Insurance Committee agenda for 04/03/2017.

HB 495: Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority – (Toledo) - Revises membership of TBARTA's Citizens Advisory Committee. Referred to two committees; passed Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; in Government Accountability Committee.

SB 596: Utilities – (Hutson) - Companion Bill (HB 687) - Utilities; Creating the "Advanced Wireless Infrastructure Deployment Act"; prohibiting the Department of Transportation and certain local governmental entities, collectively referred to as the "authority," from prohibiting, regulating, or charging for the collocation of small wireless facilities in public rights-of-way under certain circumstances; providing that approval of, and charges by, an authority are not required for routine maintenance, the replacement of certain wireless facilities, or the installation, placement, maintenance, or replacement of certain micro wireless facilities, etc. Passed Communications, Energy and Public Utilities Committee. On first reading in the Government Oversight and Accountability Committee. HB 687 Referred to two Committees, in the Energy, Utilities and Commerce Committee.

HB 647: Hillsborough County Public Transportation Commission - Grant, J. ; Toledo ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Harrison ; Raburn ; Raulerson ; Shaw ; Spano - Prohibits commission from incurring additional obligations or indebtedness; requires liquidation of assets & satisfaction of existing obligations & indebtedness by a specified date; dissolves commission; corrects cross reference. Passed Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, now in Government Accountability Committee.

SB 720: Central Florida Expressway Authority – (Mayfield) – Companion Bill (HB299) - Central Florida Expressway Authority; Increasing the number of members making up the governing body of the Central Florida Expressway Authority; adding the geographical boundary of Brevard County to the area served by the authority, etc. SB720 has been assigned to three committees. Passed the Transportation Committee. Now in Rules in the Senate. HB299 has passed the full House.

HB 725: Autonomous Vehicles – (Brodeur - Co-Introducers - Gruters) - Authorizes person to engage autonomous technology to operate autonomous vehicle in autonomous mode; provides that autonomous technology is deemed operator of autonomous vehicle operating in autonomous mode for determining compliance with traffic & motor vehicle laws; provides construction & applicability with respect to specific statutory provisions; provides that autonomous technology is deemed to be validly licensed. Companion Bill SB 1066. Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Government Accountability Committee. Passed Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; in Government Accountability Committee.

SB 752: Fixed-Guideway Projects – (Flores) – Companion Bill (HB315) - Financing of Fixed-guideway Public Transit Projects; Revising the amount of funding the Department of Transportation may provide for certain phases of fixed-guideway projects not approved for federal funding, etc. To be heard by Transportation Committee on 03/22/2017 – Was temporarily postponed.

SB 842: South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (Artiles - Co-Introducer: Galvano) – Companion Bill HB 695 – Authorizing the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, in conjunction with the operation of a certain commuter rail service, to have the power to assume specified indemnification and insurance obligations, subject to certain requirements; requiring the Department of Transportation to transfer specified amounts annually from the State Transportation Trust Fund to the authority, etc. Committee Substitute proposed by the Transportation Committee, pending reference review. The Committee Substitute is now in Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development.

HB 865: Department of Transportation (Williamson – Co-Introducer Fischer) – This is the annual bill put forward by the Department and this year is a fairly "light" year for their bill. It contains clean-up provisions for mostly minor things. The last part of the bill does place some restrictions on the Tri-Rail system and their ability to contract. Here is a link to the bill: http://flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2017/00865 The Bill was filed on February 17th and has not had any further action.

Provides for assessment & calculation of fine for unlawful weight & load of natural gas-fueled vehicle; requires written certification of weight information; provides gross vehicle weight requirements; provides exception; requires inspection of certain bridges at intervals required by Federal Highway Administration; revises amount for which DOT may enter into certain construction & maintenance contracts; provides requirements for validation of turnpike revenue bonds & related complaints; waives requirements for approval of certain work program amendments by LBC; deletes provisions regarding Florida Highway Beautification Council; transfers certain powers & duties to DOT; prohibits SFRTA from entering into certain contracts/agreements & committing certain funds w/o DOT approval of expenditures; prohibits certain funds to be provided to authority except under certain circumstances; provides requirements for entering into certain new contracts. Passed Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee. Now in Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee.

HB 881: Transportation Disadvantaged (Watson, B) - Requires transportation coordinating boards to consider certain criteria in evaluating multicounty/regional transportation opportunities; authorizes transportation disadvantaged program funds to be used to purchase certain services; provides circumstances under which cash/in-kind match is not required. Referred to three committees. Companion bill SB 1086.

SB 1066: Autonomous Vehicles – (Brandes) - Authorizing a person to engage autonomous technology to operate an autonomous vehicle in autonomous mode; providing that autonomous technology is deemed to be the operator of an autonomous vehicle operating in autonomous mode for purposes of determining compliance with traffic and motor vehicle laws, etc. Referred to three Committees. HB 725 is the companion bill.

SB 1672: Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (Latvala – Co-Introducers Galvano; Rouson) - Creating the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee to replace the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority Metropolitan Planning Organization Chairs Coordinating Committee; revising the definition of the term "authority" to mean the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority and to include only Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties and any other contiguous county that is party to an agreement of participation; creating the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority, instead of the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority, etc. Referred to three committees. Committee Substitute passed the Transportation Committee. Now in Community Affairs Committee.

SB 1742: Texting While Driving – (Rodriguez) - Revising penalties for violations of the Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law; providing enhanced penalties for such violations when committed in a school zone or school crossing; requiring each law enforcement agency in this state to adopt policies to prohibit the practice of racial profiling in the enforcement of this section, etc. Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Transportation; Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development; Appropriations.

Other transportation legislation

HB 29: Specialty License Plates – (McGhee) - Directs DHSMV to develop National Pan-Hellenic Council Sorority or Fraternity license plates. Committee Substitute (CS) in Transportation and Infrastructure

Subcommittee, passed; CS completed review and advanced to Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee, passed; now in Government Accountability Committee. On 1st reading.

SB 72: Voter Registration – (Clemens - CO-INTRODUCER: Rodriguez) - Providing that driver license or identification card applications, driver license or identification card renewal applications, and changes of address for existing driver licenses or identification cards submitted to the department serve as voter registration applications; specifying that an applicant must consent to the use of his or her signature for voter registration purposes; providing for paper-based applications, etc.

HB 147: Skateboard and Scooter Regulations – (Stark- Companion Bill SB 266 – Book) - Creates "Max's Helmet Law"; requires child under 16 to wear helmet while riding skateboard or foot-propelled scooter; provides helmet standards; prohibits attachment of skateboard or scooter to vehicle; prohibits parent from authorizing violation; prohibits renting or leasing skateboard or scooter without helmet; provides for enforcement, penalties, exceptions, & disposition of fines.

SB 156: Motor Vehicle Insurance – (Brandes) - Authorizing insurers to provide for termination of motor vehicle insurance policies issued or renewed on or after a specified date as a result of the repeal of sections by this act; requiring certain motor vehicle insurance policies to provide certain property damage liability and bodily injury liability coverage, rather than only such policies providing personal injury protection; expanding the scope of certain criminal acts related to false and fraudulent insurance claims by removing limitations to such acts under the no-fault law, etc.

HB 179: Veteran Identification – (Combee) - Veteran Identification; Requires DHSMV to create veteran identification card for certain purposes; provides for design of card; provides eligibility requirements; prohibits use of card for certain purposes; authorizes use of card as proof of veteran status for obtaining waivers of license/registration fees relating to certain businesses & occupations & carrying concealed weapons/firearms. Committee Substitute by Local, Federal and Veteran's Affairs Subcommittee, passed; Completed CS review. On Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee schedule for 04/03/2017.

HB 193: Towing and Storage Fees – (Cortes, R) - Prohibits counties & municipalities from enacting ordinances or rules that impose a fee or charge on wrecker operators or vehicle storage companies when providing certain services; provides exceptions. Committee Substitute by Local, Federal and Veteran's Affairs Subcommittee, passed; Completed CS review and advanced to Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, passed. Passed Government Accountability Committee, placed on full House calendar for vote.

HB 237: Driving or Boating Under the Influence – (Silvers) - Designates act "Driving Under the Influence of Drugs (DUID) Act"; provides that person with specified amount of delta 9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC – the drug in marijuana) per milliliter of blood commits offense of driving under influence or boating under influence.

SB 302: Penalties and Fees – (Brandes - CO-INTRODUCERS: Rouson; Young) - Revising requirements relating to the payment of court-related fines or other monetary penalties, fees, charges, and costs; prohibiting the suspension of a person's driver license solely for failure to pay a penalty if the person demonstrates to the court, when specified, that he or she is unable to pay such penalty; revising penalties relating to suspending, revoking, or withholding issuance of driver licenses or driving privileges for minors under a specified age who possess firearms under certain circumstances, etc. Committee Substitute by Transportation Committee, passed; Completed CS review and advanced to Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice.

SB 534: Public Works Project – (Perry) Companion bill HB 599 - Public Works Projects; Prohibiting the state and political subdivisions that contract for public works projects from imposing restrictive conditions on certain contractors, subcontractors, or material suppliers or carriers; prohibiting the state and political subdivisions from restricting qualified bidders from submitting bids or being awarded contracts, etc.

Committee Substitute by Community Affairs Committee. Committee Substitute passed the Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee. Bill has advanced to the Appropriations Committee.

HB 1137: Use of State Funds – (Edwards) - Provides limitation on actual expenses of certain lodging that may be reimbursed for specified employee; authorizes employee to expend own funds on lodging expenses that exceed specified amount; establishes maximum costs per square foot guidelines for new state-funded construction; provides duties of DMS; provides criminal penalties; requires legislative budget requests for fixed capital outlay for new construction to comply with certain requirements; prohibits use of state funds to purchase alcoholic beverages & food or beverages for certain state agency appreciation or recognition events. Referred to three committees. Passed Oversight, Transparency and Administration Subcommittee. Committee Substitute passed Government Operations and Technology Appropriations Subcommittee, now in Government Accountability Committee.

HB 1387: Express Lanes – (Nunez) - Requires DOT & Florida Turnpike Enterprise to ensure reasonable & practicably feasible entry & exit points on express lanes & to undertake efforts to expand reasonable & practicably feasible entry & exit points for certain purposes; provides toll requirements. Introduced on 03/07/2017, referred to three Committees. Passed the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee Agenda. Now in Transportation and Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee.

HB 1419: Obstruction of Traffic during a Protest or Demonstration- (Williamson) - Obstruction of Traffic during a Protest or Demonstration; Prohibits person from obstructing/interfering with traffic during certain protest/demonstration; provides penalties; exempts motor vehicle operator from liability for injury/death to such person under certain circumstances; specifies burden of proof. Introduced on 03/07/2017, referred to three Committees.

HB 6007: Traffic Infraction Detectors – (Avila; Ingoglia - CO-INTRODUCER: Diaz, M.) – (Very similar to SB 178 - Artiles - CO-INTRODUCERS: Brandes; Mayfield) - Traffic Infraction Detectors; Repeals provisions relating to installation & use of traffic infraction detectors to enforce specified provisions when driver fails to stop at traffic signal, provisions that authorize DHSMV, county, or municipality to use such detectors, & provisions for distribution of penalties collected for specified violations. Passed Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Passed Appropriations Committee; Passed Government Accountability Committee; Placed on Calendar. On 2nd Reading. Placed on Special Order Calendar, 03/22/2017. Passed the full House. Now in the Senate and assigned to three committees: Transportation; Community Affairs; and Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee

HB 6009: Motorcycle Safety – (Hahnfeldt) - Removes provisions authorizing certain persons over 21 years of age to operate/ride motorcycle without wearing protective headgear; provides penalties.

American Planning Association
Florida Chapter
Legislative Update – March 31 2017

The Florida Constitution Revision Commission has scheduled public hearings in early April in Miami, Boca Raton and Pensacola. Click here for more information.

The latest Bill Tracking report dated March 31 can be viewed here. This report shows the bills that APA Florida is tracking, the status of each bill and the committee in which each bill sits. The following discussion highlights those bills which have had action over the past week. If you do not see a bill, its status likely did not change since the last report. Refer to the Bill Tracking Report or to the website to review past updates.

Of note over the past week:

Growth Management

Vacation Rentals: HB 425 (Representative La Rosa), which would prohibit local governments from regulating, restricting or prohibiting vacation rentals based solely on their classification, use or occupancy, was reported favorably by the House Careers & Competition Subcommittee on March 28. It now moves to the House Commerce Committee, its last committee of reference. CS/SB 188 (Senator Steube), the Senate companion bill, is on the April 3 agenda of the Senate Community Affairs Committee. This bill originally prohibited local governments from regulating vacation rentals based only on their classification, use or occupancy. The amended bill states that a local law, ordinance or regulation may regulate activities that arise when a property is used as a vacation rental provided that the regulation applies uniformly to all residential properties. However, local governments may not prohibit vacation rentals or regulate the duration or frequency of rentals. This bill does not apply to a local law, ordinance or regulation adopted on or before June 1, 2011 unless they are being amended to be less restrictive. Two bills that would allow local governments to regulate vacation rentals, HB 6003 (Representative Richardson) and SB 1516 (Senator Rader), have not been heard in committee.

Private Property Rights: SB 940 (Senator Perry) would require local governments to address the protection of private property rights in their comprehensive plans. The bill is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Community Affairs Committee, its first committee of reference, on April 3. A similar bill, HB 1309 (Representative Perry), has not yet been heard in committee.

Subdivided Lands: HB 1241 (Representative Eagle) was reported favorably by the House Agriculture & Property Rights Subcommittee on March 28. The bill establishes priorities for use by certain entities when awarding grants or financial assistance for "legacy" communities. A legacy community is defined as "lands under a recorded plat which were registered as subdivided lands on or before July 1, 1985 under former chapter 498 or former chapter 478." Each state agency and each public or private entity or corporation that administers a dedicated grant program or trust fund and receives legislative appropriations to fund grants or to provide financial assistance for community development or redevelopment, environmental protection or preservation, local improvements, concurrency, or management and development of real property in this state, shall award a portion of those grants or trust funds to entities with a legacy community that have filed an application. The bill now moves to the House Appropriations Committee,

its second of three committees of reference. SB 1696 (Senator Steube), a similar bill, has not yet been heard in committee.

Annexation Procedures for Municipalities: SB 1488 (Senator Clemons) revises circumstances under which a municipality is prohibited from annexing certain lands in contiguous, compact, or unincorporated areas without getting consent from specified landowners. It also specifies that if the area to be annexed does not have any registered electors that own property in the area to be annexed, a vote of electors in area to be annexed is not required. The bill is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Community Affairs Committee, its first of three committees of reference, on April 3. An identical bill, HB 1087 (Representative Silvers) is in the House Agriculture and Property Rights Subcommittee, its second committee of reference.

Linear Facilities: SB 1048 (Senator Lee) has moved through committees and has been placed on the Senate Special Order Calendar for April 4. The bill amends paragraphs 380.04(b) and (h), F.S., which contain the exemptions from "development". The bills provide that the exemption for work done on established rights-of-way applies also to rights-of way and corridors to be established. They also provide that the exemption for the creation of specified types of property rights applies to creation of distribution and transmission corridors. The bills make the same changes to s. 163.3221, F.S., which provides definitions for use in the Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act, which provides for agreements between local governments and developers. An identical bill, HB 1055 (Representative Ingram) is in the House Commerce Committee, its last committee of reference.

Utilities: CS/CS/SB 596 (Senator Hutson), which prohibits FDOT and local governments from regulating collocation of small wireless facilities in public rights-of ways, was reported favorably by the Senate Government Oversight and Accountability Committee on March 27. As amended by the committee, the definition of "authority utility pole" was amended to exclude utility poles within the ROA in a retirement community that is deed-restricted for older persons, has more than 5,000 residents and has underground utilities for electric transmission or distribution. The bill now moves to the Senate Rules Committee, its last committee of reference. CS/HB 687 (Representative La Rosa), which is substantively similar to CS/CS/SB 596, is now in the House Commerce Committee, its last committee of reference.

Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System Inspections: CS/CS/HB 285 (Representative Fine) was reported favorably by the House Natural Resources & Public Lands Subcommittee on March 27. The strike-all amendment, offered by the bill sponsor, deleted the proposed mandatory inspection of septic tanks near impaired water bodies and now just requires that sellers statewide must provide buyers with a disclosure that the property contains an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system. The bill includes specific language that must be included in the disclosure. The amended bill also requires the Department of Health to identify all onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems in the state and submit a report on the number and location to the Governor, Senate President and House Speaker by January 1, 2017. The bill now moves to the House Natural Resources & Public Lands Subcommittee, its second of three committees of reference. SB 1748 (Senator Stewart), a bill similar to HB 285 as originally filed, has not yet been heard in committee.

Administrative Proceedings: HB 997 (Representative Killebrew) amends the Florida Equal Access to Justice Act to require attorney fee-shifting from a non-prevailing party to the prevailing party in administrative proceedings in which a petitioner challenges an agency permit or license granted to a third party unless the challenge was substantially justified or special circumstances exist which would make the award unjust. The bill provides that such fee-shifting should occur because the financial consequences of the

delay on projects authorized by permits and other orders are much greater than the consequences faced by plaintiffs in such proceedings. The bill was to have been heard in the House Oversight, Transparency & Administration Subcommittee, its first committee of reference, on March 28 but was temporarily postponed. A similar bill, SB 996 (Senator Perry) is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on April 4.

Economic Development/Redevelopment

Community Redevelopment Agencies: SB 1770 (Senator Lee) was scheduled to be heard by the Senate Community Affairs Committee on March 22 but the committee ran out of time. It is now scheduled to be heard by the committee on April 3. It should be noted that Senator Lee has filed three amendments to the bill. The current bill language states that any CRA in existence on July 1, 2017 would terminate on the expiration date provided in the CRA's charter or on September 20, 2037; one of the filed amendments would allow the governing body to approve a CRA's continued existence by a supermajority vote. CS/HB 13 (Representative Raburn) is a similar bill but does not currently include the option to retain an existing CRA through supermajority vote of the local municipality. This bill is in the House Ways & Means Committee, its second of three committees of reference.

Rural Economic Development Initiative: CS/HB 333 (Representative Clemons) was reported favorably by the House Agriculture & Property Rights Subcommittee on March 28. The bill makes several changes to the REDI program including:

- Revising the legislative intent of the REDI program to focus on job creation, improved community infrastructure, the development and expansion of a skilled workforce, and improved access to healthcare;
- Revising the REDI membership to include specified agency and organization heads, as well as five appointed private sector members;
- Revising the definition of rural area of opportunity (RAO) to focus on rural communities with specific disadvantages such as economic distress, low labor force, low educational attainment, high unemployment, high infant mortality, and high diabetes and obesity;
- Removing the limit on the number of RAOs that REDI may recommend to the Governor; and
- Specifying reporting requirements of REDI.

The committee amended the bill to remove a provision requiring the REDI program and RAOs be included in the Economic Programs Evaluation performed by the Office of Economic and Demographic Research and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA). It also revised the REDI membership of the original bill by removing the President of Enterprise Florida, Inc., and also by replacing the Secretary of Health Care Administration with the State Surgeon General. The bill now moves to the House Transportation & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee, its second of three committees of reference. A similar bill, SB 600 (Senator Grimsley), is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Agriculture Committee, its second of three committees of reference, on April 3.

Florida Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation: HB 9 E1 (Representative Renner), which moves VISIT Florida under DEO and modifies current law to provide greater accountability and oversight of Visit Florida, has been received by the Senate and referred to three committees.

Economic Programs: CS/CS/HB 7005 eliminates Enterprise Florida and provides that all duties, functions, records, pending issues, existing contracts, administrative authority, administrative rules, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other public funds relating to the programs in Enterprise Florida are transferred by a type two transfer to DEO. The bill provides that VISIT Florida may enter into an agreement with DEO to continue any existing program, activity, duty, or function necessary for operation of the foundation and that any funds held in trust for the corporation may be used for the purpose for which the funds were received. The bill was passed by the House on March 10. It has been received by the Senate and referred to two committees of reference.

Hazard Mitigation

Natural Hazards: CS/HB 181 (Representative Jacobs) was passed by the House on March 30. This bill creates an interagency workgroup to share information, coordinate ongoing efforts and collaborate on initiatives relating to natural hazards, extreme heat, drought, wildfire, sea-level change, high tides, storm surge, saltwater intrusion, stormwater runoff, flash floods, inland flooding, and coastal flooding. The workgroup would include representatives for each agency within the executive branch and water management districts, and the Public Service Commission. It would be coordinated by the DEM director and an annual report would be submitted to the Governor and Legislature. SB 464 (Senator Clemons), the companion bill, is in the Senate Rules Committee, its last committee of reference. The two bills are similar except that the Senate bill does not include House language that earmarks funding from the Grants and Donations Trust Fund for the upcoming fiscal year to implement the bill.

Medical Marijuana

Medical Use of Marijuana: HB 1397 (Representative Rodrigues) is the first of seven bills related to medical marijuana to be heard in committee. It was reported favorably by the House Health Quality Subcommittee on March 28 and now moves to the House Appropriations Committee, its second of three committees of reference. A legislative staff analysis of the bill can be read here. A second bill, SB 406 (Senator Bradley), will be heard by the Senate Health Policy Committee on April 3.

Schools

Shared Use of Public School Playground Facilities: HB 1131 (Representative Drake) creates a new section in Chapter 1013 which directs the Department of Education to promote the shared use of playground facilities. The department shall provide technical assistance to school districts and provide short-term grants, as established in the General Appropriations Act, to help open facilities for shared use. Additionally, a Shared Use Task Force would be created to identify barriers in creating shared use agreements and make recommendations to facilitate shared use in high-need communities. The task force is required to submit a report of its findings to the Senate President and House Speaker by June 30, 2018, upon which it will expire. The bill was reported favorably by the House PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee on March 28 and is scheduled to be heard by the House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee, its second of three committees of reference, on April 3. SB 984 (Senator Bean), an identical bill, is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Education Committee, the first of three committees of reference, on April 3.

Maximum Class Size: In 2003, the Florida Legislature enacted chapter 2003-391, Laws of Florida, which implements the provisions of the class-size amendment and defines the progress that districts must make

in reducing class size. Compliance with class size reduction requirements is calculated at the classroom level for traditional public schools and at the school level for charter schools, district-operated schools of choice and schools participating in the Principal Autonomy Pilot Program Initiative. CS/HB 591 (Representative Massullo) removes the exemptions for class size requirements and maintains class size compliance for each classroom but revises the method for calculating the penalty to be at the school average for any school that fails to comply with class size requirements. The bill repeals an increase in the penalty for failure to comply with the class size requirements and provides that a district may not have its class size categorical allocation reduced for the 2017-18 or 2018-19 fiscal years if it meets certain requirements. The bill has moved through committee and has been placed on the House Special Order Calendar for April 4.

Transportation

High-Speed Rail: HB 269 (Representative Magar) creates the Florida High-Speed Passenger Rail Safety Act, and assigns various regulatory duties to the Department of Transportation (DOT) related to high speed passenger rail operations. The bill also establishes certain safety requirements applicable to high speed passenger rail and allocates responsibility for specified maintenance, repair, improvement and upgrade costs. The bill was temporarily postponed on March 28 by the House Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee. Three amendments to the bill, including a strike all amendment, were filed on March 27. CS/SB 386 (Senator Mayfield) is in the Senate Community Affairs Committee, its second of three committees of reference.

Transportation Network Companies: CS/CS/SB 340 (Senator Brandes) creates statewide requirements for transportation network companies (TNCs). The bill specifies that its provisions preempt any local ordinances or rules on TNCs, so that TNCs will be governed exclusively by state law. Local governments are prohibited from imposing taxes, licensing requirements or other restrictions on TNCs. The bill was reported favorably by the Senate Judiciary Committee on March 28 and now moves to the Senate Rules Committee, its last committee of reference. A similar bill, CS/HB 221 (Representative Sprowls) has moved through committees; it was temporarily postponed on Second Reading on March 29 but has been placed on the House Special Order Calendar for April 4.

Water/Natural Resources

Aquifer Replenishment: CS/SB 1438 (Senator Broxson) authorizes the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to place additional conditions on permits for underground injection intended to protect, augment, or replenish the state's ground water resources. These conditions can include the establishment of a zone of discharge for ground water standards and associated institutional controls to promote the conservation, reclamation, and sustainability of the state's ground water resources. Examples of institutional controls would include property interests, use restrictions and access controls, and well construction limitations. DEP is also required to develop rules establishing voluntary facility classifications and associated operator licensing requirements for treatment facilities that provide treatment for reclaimed water, stormwater, and other water resources as a means of promoting the availability of sufficient water for existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses and natural systems.

The bill was reported favorably by the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee on March 28 and now moves to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on the Environment and Natural Resources, its second of three committees of reference. A similar bill, HB 755 (Representative Albritton) is in the House Appropriations Committee, its second of three committees of reference.

Miscellaneous

Unmanned Aircraft: CS/HB 1027 (Representative Yarborough) vests the authority to regulate the ownership or operation of unmanned aircraft systems (drones) with the state. However, this would not limit the authority of a local government to enact or enforce local ordinances relating to nuisances, voyeurism, harassment, reckless endangerment, property damage, or other illegal acts arising from the use of unmanned aircraft systems if such laws or ordinances are not specifically related to the use of an unmanned aircraft system for those illegal acts. The bill was reported favorably by the House Careers & Competition Subcommittee on March 28 and now moves to the House Government Accountability Committee, its last committee of reference. CS/SB 832 (Senator Young), a similar bill, is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Transportation Committee, its second of four committees of reference, on April 4.

Local Government Ethics Reform: CS/HB 7021 E1 (Representative Metz) was passed by the House on March 30. The bill makes numerous changes to Florida's Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees (Code) as it relates to local government officers, employees, and lobbyists. The legislative staff analysis of the bill can be read here.

Regulated Professions and Occupations: SB 802 (Senator Passidomo) addresses licensing, registration, and regulatory requirements for various professions and occupations. Among these changes, the bill amends s.481.219 to require that a business organization may not engage practice of architecture unless its qualifying agent is a registered architect. The bill is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Judiciary Committee, its second of three committees of reference, on April 4. SB 1396 (Senator Brandes) and HB 7047 (Representative Beshears), are two related bills and are both in their second of three committees of reference.

April 12, 2017

8A-H. Informational Items

Staff and/or board members will provide information and updates on the following items:

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. April 20-21 – Pinellas Economic Leadership Symposium
B. May 12 – Save the Date – Collaborative Lab on Regional Governance
C. May 19 – Save the Date – Bike Your City – Clearwater
D. Summary of Public Outreach and Stakeholder Meetings
E. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments
F. Correspondence, Fatalities Map, Pinellas Trail Data and Draft PAC Action Sheet
G. Committee Vacancies
H. Other

ATTACHMENT(S):

- Save the Date Flyer for May 12 Collaborative Lab
- Correspondence of Interest
- Fatalities Map
- Pinellas Trail Data
- Draft PAC Action Sheet

MPO Chairs Coordinating Committee

& the Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area

Leadership Group

Regional Transportation Planning & Coordination

Best Practices Study

Kick-Off Workshop at *Collaborative Labs*

SAVE THE DATE

Friday | May 12, 2017 | 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Elected Officials, Government Agencies, Transportation Organizations, and Business Leaders of the Tampa Bay Region will review the current state-of-the-practice of transportation planning across the eight counties of West Central Florida. The May 12 collaborative workshop will then focus on *how do we get better results by working together.*

Defining what successful regional coordination means for Tampa Bay, and identifying barriers to it, will guide the next phase of the study: independent research into national best practices. A second collaborative workshop will be held after that research is complete.

Please RSVP to:

Anthony.Matonti@tbarta.com

April 12, 2017

8D. Summary of Public Outreach and Stakeholders Meetings

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

SUMMARY

Each month the board will be informed of any meetings staff members are actively participating in that involve citizens, business groups or other agencies. The goal of this item is to provide a more comprehensive view of the conversations that Forward Pinellas staff are a part of, and the ways in which they act as resources for the wider community.

ATTACHMENT(S): Public Outreach and Stakeholders Meetings Summary

ACTION: None required; informational item only

Meeting Date	Organization	Location	# in attendance	Description	Staff members in attendance
3/1/2017	FDOT	FDOT Offices		Tampa Bay Technical Review Team. Regular meetings to coordinate on technical matters to the FDOT District 7 MPOs, including the maintenance of the regional travel demand model.	Chelsea Favero
3/1/2017	Unite Pinellas	Collaborative Labs		Unite Pinellas Planning Day	Whit Blanton
3/1/2017	FL Legislative Delegation	Sen. Brandes's office		Meeting with Sen. Jeff Brandes	Whit Blanton
3/1/2017	FDOT	FDOT Offices		Tampa Bay Transportation Applications Group. Quarterly meetings of regional planners and engineers to discuss new projects, emerging technologies, and innovative planning important to the Tampa Bay region.	Chelsea Favero
3/2/2017	MPOAC	Orlando		Meeting of the MPOAC	Whit Blanton
3/3/2017	MPOAC	Fort Myers		MPOAC Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee	Sarah Ward
3/3/2017	FL Legislative Delegation	Rep. Diamond's office		Meeting with Rep. Ben Diamond	Whit Blanton
3/6/2017	Bike/Walk Tampa Bay	Tampa Police Department		Bike/Walk Tampa Bay Board Meeting	Marc Hanger
3/7/2017	City of Madeira Beach	Madeira Beach City Hall		Meeting with Madeira Beach city leadership to discuss countywide transportation issues.	Whit Blanton
3/7/2017	Forward Pinellas	Clearwater Main Library		SR 60 Community Meeting	Sarah Ward, Hilary Lehman, Sarah Caper
3/8/2017	Leadership Pinellas	Bright House Field		Speaking to Leadership Pinellas Class of 2017	Whit Blanton
3/10/2017	Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA)	St. Pete College Epicenter		Monthly coordination meeting with staff directors from the Chairs Coordinating Committee.	Whit Blanton, Sarah Ward, Chelsea Favero

3/10/2017	MPOs of the Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA)	Teleconference	Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area staff directors coordination meeting. This is a monthly coordination meeting with the staff directors.	Whit Blanton, Chelsea Favero, Sarah Ward
3/13/2017	Pinellas County Planning Department	Planning Department Office	Meeting with Planning Department staff to discuss guiding principles of the Vision Element of the Comprehensive Plan.	Whit Blanton, Rodney Chatman
3/14/2017	Clearwater Chamber	Government Affairs Committee	Meeting of the Clearwater Chamber Government Affairs Committee.	Whit Blanton
3/15/2017	Forward Pinellas	Forward Pinellas Offices	Planning meeting for the National Bike Month event.	Whit Blanton, Rodney Chatman, Susan Miller
3/16/2017	FDOT	FDOT Offices	Tampa Bay Technical Review Team. Regular meetings to coordinate on technical matters to the FDOT District 7 MPOs, including the maintenance of the regional travel demand model.	Chelsea Favero
3/17/2017	Courtney Campbell Scenic Highway Corridor Advisory Committee	AECOM Offices	Regular meeting of the Courtney Campbell Scenic Highway Corridor Advisory Committee	Rodney Chatman
3/20/2017	PSTA	Teleconference	Discussion of pilot project for dedicated Trolley Lane on Memorial Bridge	multiple
3/21/2017	St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce	Chamber offices	Meeting of the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee	Hilary Lehman
3/21/2017	FDOT	FDOT Offices	Meeting to discuss options for enhanced sidewalk construction along Gulf Blvd. in Madeira Beach.	Rodney Chatman

3/22/2017	Florida Senate	Tallahassee	Traveled to Tallahassee for the Senate Transportation Committee's hearing of the TBARTA bill	Whit Blanton
3/22/2017	Pinellas County Planning	Planning Department Office	Meeting about grant to replace Fort DeSoto Pier	Whit Blanton, Sarah Caper
3/22/2017	PSTA	PSTA Offices	PSTA Planning Committee meeting	Sarah Caper
3/22/2017	FDOT	Forward Pinellas Offices	Alt. 19 PD&E study kick-off meeting.	multiple
3/23/2017	Pinellas County	Pinellas County Offices	Meeting to discuss the watershed impacts of the Joe's Creek Trail.	Alicia Parinello
3/23/2017	St. Petersburg	HSN	Regular meeting of the Gateway area business leaders in St. Petersburg. Forward Pinellas was invited to provide information on transportation projects in the area.	Chelsea Favero
3/23/2017	Jacobs Consulting	Clearwater	Meeting with Jacobs Consulting and Commissioner Dave Eggers to discuss the Regional Transit Feasibility Plan	Whit Blanton
3/24/2017	Forward Pinellas	PSTA Offices	Monthly meeting with PSTA, FDOT and Forward Pinellas. Also included the City of Clearwater to discuss pilot project on Memorial Causeway.	Whit Blanton, Sarah Ward, Sarah Caper
3/24/2017	Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA)	FDOT Offices	Monthly meeting of the TBARTA Board.	Chelsea Favero
3/27/2017	Forward Pinellas	Forward Pinellas Offices	Meeting with City of Clearwater to discuss Drew Street Complete Streets project	Sarah Ward, Chelsea Favero, Sarah Caper
3/28/2017	Forward Pinellas	Duval Estates in Lealman	Lealman CRA meeting; presentation to the committee on Joe's Creek Trail Study.	Alicia Parinello
3/28/2017	Clearwater Chamber	Chamber offices	Clearwater Chamber transportation meeting	Whit Blanton
3/28/2017	Jacobs	Jacobs	Stakeholder Technical Review Team for Regional Transit Feasibility Plan	Whit Blanton, Sarah Caper

3/29/2017	Federal Highway Administration	Forward Pinellas Offices	Quadrennial FHWA Certification Public Hearing.	multiple
3/31/2017	Forward Pinellas	SPC	Board Work Session	Multiple

Meeting Date	Organization	Location	Description	Staff members in attendance
4/3/2017	Pinellas County	EOC	Emergency Management Training	Multiple
4/4/2017	FDOT	FDOT Offices	Local Agency Program (LAP) Training Workshop	Rodney Chatman
4/4/2017	PSTA	PSTA Offices	St Petersburg Downtown Circulator Study Management Team Meeting	Whit Blanton, Sarah Caper
4/5/2017	FDOT	FDOT Offices	Meeting of MPOs throughout the region to coordinate a consistent approach to socioeconomic data for the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan.	Chelsea Favero
4/5/2017	Jacobs Consulting	Clearwater	Meeting with Jacobs Consulting and Councilmember Doreen Caudell to discuss the Regional Transit Feasibility Plan	Whit Blanton
4/5/2017	FDOT	FDOT Offices	Meeting to discuss findings and next steps from US 19 Road Safety Audit	Al Bartolotta, Sarah Caper, Whit Blanton
4/6/2017	Pinellas County	Planning Department	Meeting with Planning Department staff to discuss the Downtown Palm Harbor Master Plan Update and related intersection improvements	Whit Blanton, Rodney Chatman
4/6/2017	MPOAC	Cocoa Beach	MPOAC Meeting	Whit Blanton
4/7/2017				
4/7/2017	Tampa Bay TMA Leadership Group	AECOM Tampa Offices	Comprised of representatives of each MPO, the TMA Leadership Group recommended approval of regional transportation and multi-use trail priority projects, and engaged in a discussion of regional transportation governance options.	Whit Blanton, Sarah Ward, Chelsea Favero
4/7/2017	Tarpon Springs	Tarpon Springs City Hall	Meeting with City staff to discuss the Keystone-Tarpon Turtle Annex and Elfer's Spur project status	Rodney Chatman
4/10/17-4/12/17	Federal Highway Administration	St. Louis	Traveling to St. Louis on FHWA Peer Exchange Trip.	Whit Blanton, Commissioner John Morroni

4/11/2017	Forward Pinellas	PSTA Offices	Monthly coordination meeting with Forward Pinellas, PSTA and FDOT	Sarah Ward, Sarah Caper
4/13/2017	FDOT	TBD	Meeting with FDOT staff to discuss Gateway study.	Whit Blanton, Chelsea Favero
4/14/2017	Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County	Forward Pinellas Offices	Meeting the FDOH to discuss future partnership opportunities.	Whit Blanton, Rodney Chatman
4/14/2017	Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA)	TBARTA Offices	Monthly coordination meeting with staff directors from the Chairs Coordinating Committee.	Whit Blanton, Sarah Ward, Chelsea Favero
4/14/2017	MPOs of the Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA)	Teleconference	Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area staff directors coordination meeting. This is a monthly coordination meeting with the staff directors.	Whit Blanton, Chelsea Favero, Sarah Ward
4/18/2017	BRT Study Management Team Meeting	PSTA Offices	Central Avenue BRT Study Management Team	Whit Blanton, Sarah Caper
4/20/2017	2017 Pinellas Economic Leadership Symposium	SPC - Seminole	Symposium that will examine practical strategies for refining our land use, transportation and economic development strategies to better position our community and region for sustained economic opportunity.	multiple

4/21/2017	2017 Pinellas Economic Leadership Symposium	SPC - Seminole	Symposium that will examine practical strategies for refining our land use, transportation and economic development strategies to better position our community and region for sustained economic opportunity.	multiple
4/24/2017	FDOT	FDOT Offices	Tampa Bay Technical Review Team. Regular meetings to coordinate on technical matters to the FDOT District 7 MPOs, including the maintenance of the regional travel demand model.	Chelsea Favero
4/27/2017	TBARTA	TBARTA Offices	Meeting of the TBARTA MPO's CCC Multi-Use Trails Committee	Susan Miller, Rodney Chatman
4/27/2017	Forward Pinellas	FDOT Offices	Tri-County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board Subcommittee Meeting	Sarah Caper
4/28/2017	Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority (TBARTA)	FDOT Offices	Monthly meeting of the TBARTA Board.	Chelsea Favero

April 12, 2017

8E. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

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 from March 2017:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Regular Plan Map Amendment:

- Case CW 17-1, a City of Largo case located at 1685 Belcher Road. The board **approved** the amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Residential Low Medium (vote 5-0).

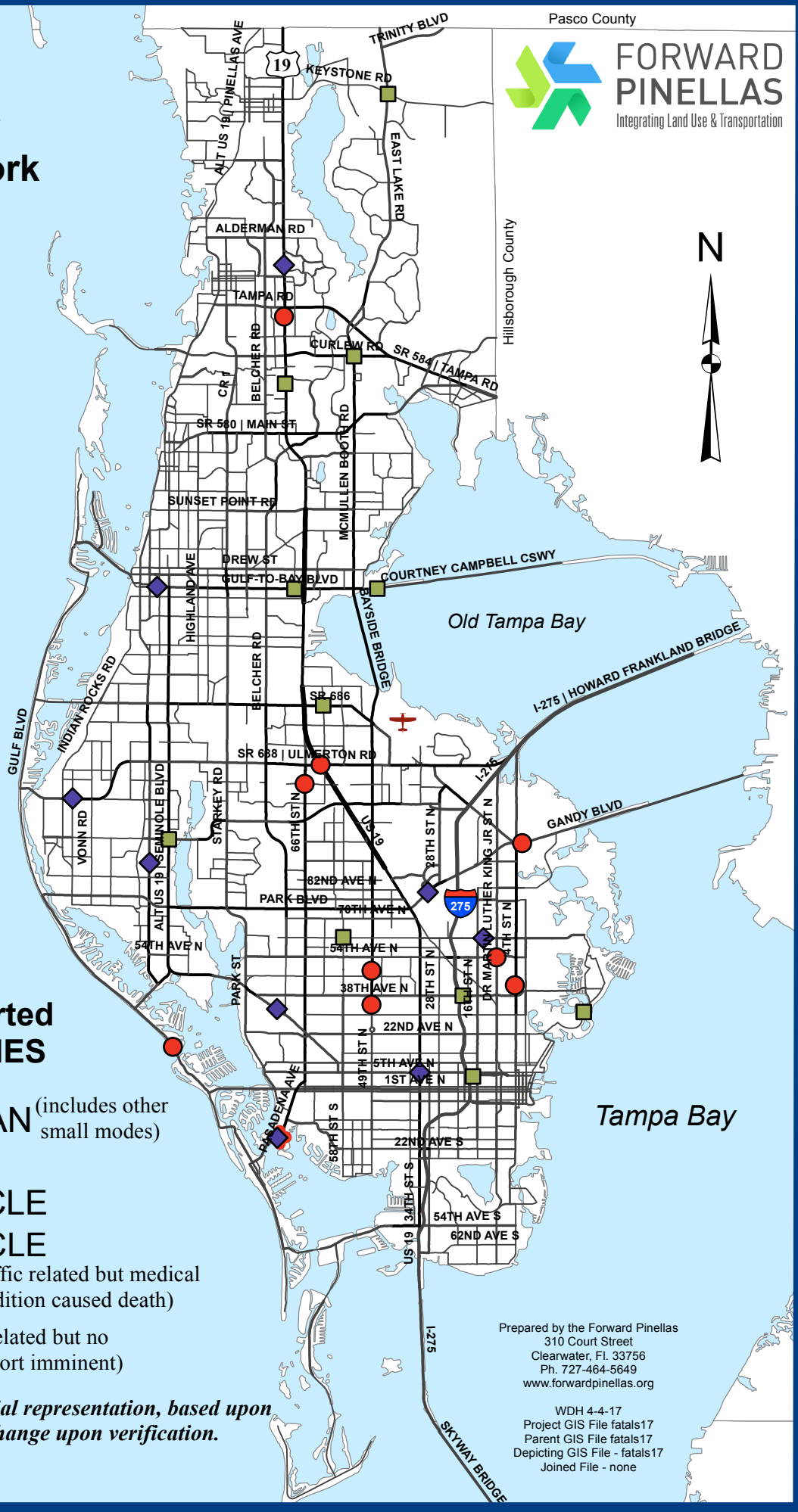
Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments March 2017:

There were no Tier I Amendments to report.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None required; informational item only

Pinellas County Major Road Network



YEAR 2017
(thru April 3rd)

Locations of Reported TRAFFIC FATALITIES

- PEDESTRIAN (includes other small modes)
- BICYCLE
- MOTORCYCLE
- AUTO-VEHICLE
- MEDICAL (traffic related but medical condition caused death)
- OTHER (traffic related but no crash report imminent)

NOTE: Graphic not an official representation, based upon initial reporting, subject to change upon verification.

Prepared by the Forward Pinellas
310 Court Street
Clearwater, Fl. 33756
Ph. 727-464-5649
www.forwardpinellas.org

WDH 4-4-17
Project GIS File fatals17
Parent GIS File fatals17
Depicting GIS File - fatals17
Joined File - none

CRASHES	DATAID	ROADWAY	LOCATION	DESC	DATE	FATAL
1	004F17	5TH AVE N	34TH ST N	MC	1/17/2017	1
1	005F17	113TH ST N	9000 BLOCK	MC	1/19/2017	1
1	008F17	COURT ST	CHESTNUT ST	MC	1/27/2017	1
1	010F17	SR688 | WALSINGHAM RD	137TH ST	MC	1/31/2017	2
1	022F17	GANDY BLVD	GRAND AVE	MC	3/12/2017	1
1	030F17	62ND AVE N	1400 BLOCK	MC	3/16/2017	1
1	025F17	ALT 19 HWY | TYRONE BLVD	33RD AVE N	MC	3/20/2017	1
1	026F17	US 19 HWY	PINE RIDGE WAY S	MC	3/23/2017	1
1	027F17	PASADENA AVE	JUST W OF SHORE DR	MC	3/25/2017	1
1	014F17	PASADENA AVE S	SHORE DR	MED	2/12/2017	1
1	002F17	42ND AVE N	4TH ST N	PED	1/9/2017	1
1	003F17	49TH ST N	3500 BLOCK	PED	1/9/2017	1
1	009F17	US 19 HWY	S OF TAMPA RD	PED	1/25/2017	1
1	011F17	GULF BLVD	JUST N OF 13OTH AVE	PED	2/8/2017	1
1	012F17	49TH ST N	JUST S OF 47TH AVE N	PED	2/9/2017	1
1	019F17	GANDY BLVD	E OF 4TH ST N	PED	3/2/2017	1
1	024F17	US 19 HWY	SR688 | ULMERTON RD	PED	3/17/2017	1
1	023F17	54TH AVE N	DR MARTIN LUTHER KING ST N	PED	3/20/2017	1
1	028F17	66TH ST N	126TH AVE N	PED	3/29/2017	1
1	001F17	US19 HWY	ROYAL BLVD	VEH	1/4/2017	1
1	017F17	US ALT 19 | SEMINOLE BLVD	102ND AVE N (delayed fatality)	VEH	1/5/2017	1
1	006F17	I-375	WB EXIT RAMP TO I-275	VEH	1/25/2017	1
1	007F17	SNELL ISLE BLVD NE	NB AT CURVE	VEH	1/25/2017	1
1	018F17	GULF-TO-BAY BLVD	OLD COACHMAN RD	VEH	2/4/2017	1
1	013F17	EASTLAKE RD	KEYSTONE RD	VEH	2/16/2017	1
1	015F17	58TH ST N	62ND AVE N	VEH	2/18/2017	1
1	016F17	SR686 | ROOSEVELT BLVD	62ND ST N	VEH	2/21/2017	1
1	029F17	COURTNEY CAMPBELL CSWY	DAMASCUS RD	VEH	3/4/2017	1
1	021F17	38TH AVE N	I-275 NB ON-RAMP	VEH	3/10/2017	1
1	020F17	CR611 | McMULLEN BOOTH RD	CURLEW RD	VEH	3/11/2017	1

PINELLAS COUNTY

INITIAL REPORTING

of Traffic Fatalities

thru April 3, 2017

31 FATALITIES INCLUDING MEDICALS

30 FATALITIES EXCLUDING MEDICALS

30 CRASHES (fatal) INCLUDING MEDICALS

29 CRASHES (fatal) EXCLUDING MEDICALS

0 OTHER TRAFFIC RELATED FATALITIES BUT NO IMMINENT CRASH REPORT

11 AUTO-VEHICLE FATALITIES

36.7% **(medical crashes not included)**

11 AUTO-VEHICLE CRASHES (fatal)

VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

10 MOTORCYCLE FATALITIES

33.3% of all traffic fatalities

9 MOTORCYCLE CRASHES (fatal)

0 BICYCLE FATALITIES

0.0% of all traffic fatalities

0 BICYCLE CRASHES (fatal)

9 PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES

30.0% of all traffic fatalities (includes other small modes)

9 PEDESTRIAN CRASHES (fatal)

19 VULNERABLE USER FATALITIES

18 VULNERABLE USER CRASHES (fatal)

63.3% Vulnerable/total fatalities

(medical crashes not included)

NOTE

Table not an official representation, based upon initial reporting, subject to change upon verification.

Forward Pinellas

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period:
January 1 – January 31, 2017 (31 days)

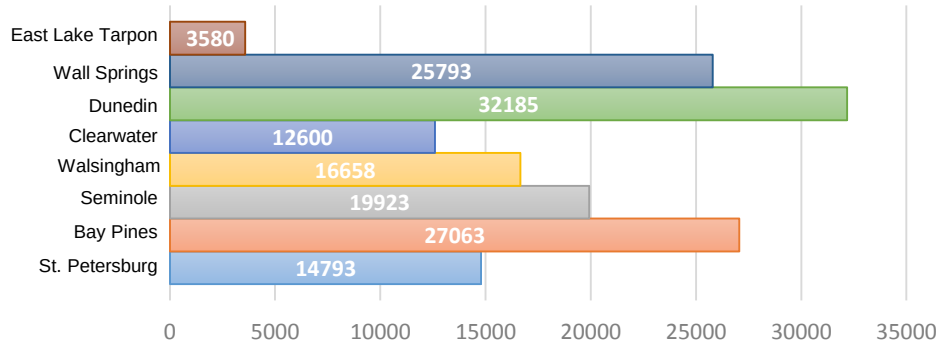
FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

Total Usage

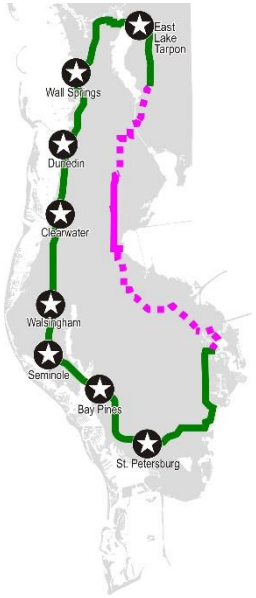
31-Day Count Total: 152,595
Daily Average Users: 4,922

Highest Daily Totals:
#1 - Saturday, January 21st (Dunedin - 1,806)
#2 - Sunday, January 15th (Bay Pines - 1,582)
#3 - Saturday, January 21st (Wall Springs - 1,511)

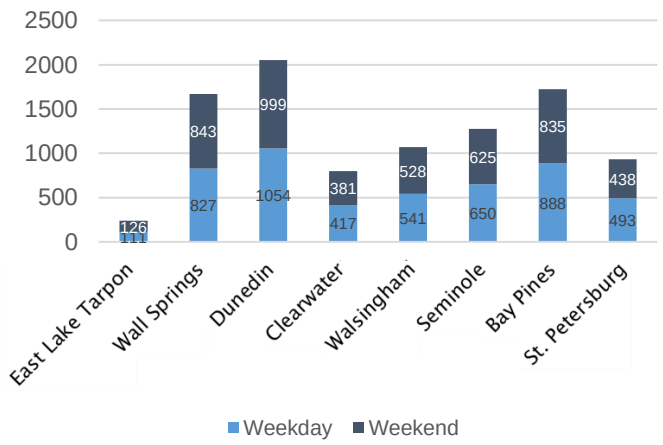
Monthly Trail Users by Counter Location



Counter Locations



Average Weekday & Weekend Profile



Trail User Mode Split

East Lake Tarpon:	21%	79%
Wall Springs:	23%	77%
Dunedin:	17%	83%
Clearwater:	16%	84%
Walsingham:	18%	82%
Seminole:	28%	72%
Bay Pines:	63%	37%
St. Petersburg:	30%	70%

Source: Forward Pinellas January 2017

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period:
February 1 – February 28, 2017 (28 days)

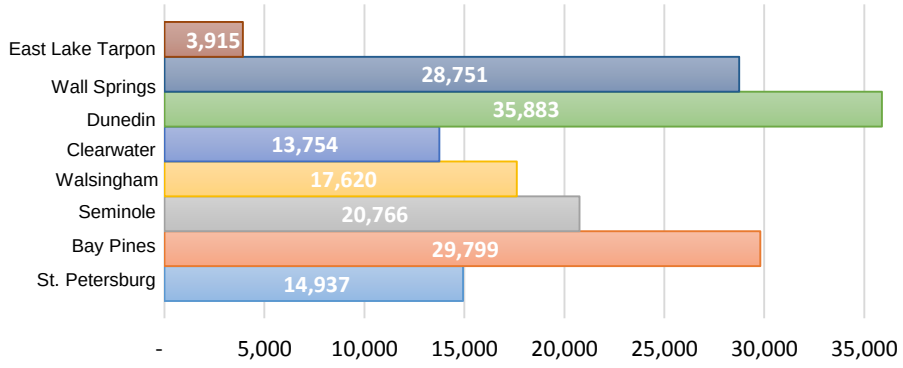
FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

Total Usage

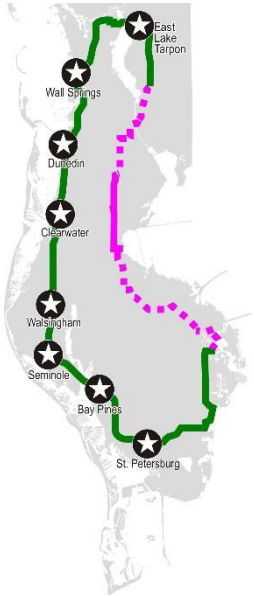
28-Day Count Total: 165,425
Daily Average Users: 5,908

Highest Daily Totals:
#1 - Saturday, February 11th (Dunedin - 2,650)
#2 - Sunday, February 12th (Wall Springs - 1,747)
#3 - Sunday, February 19th (Bay Pines - 1,584)

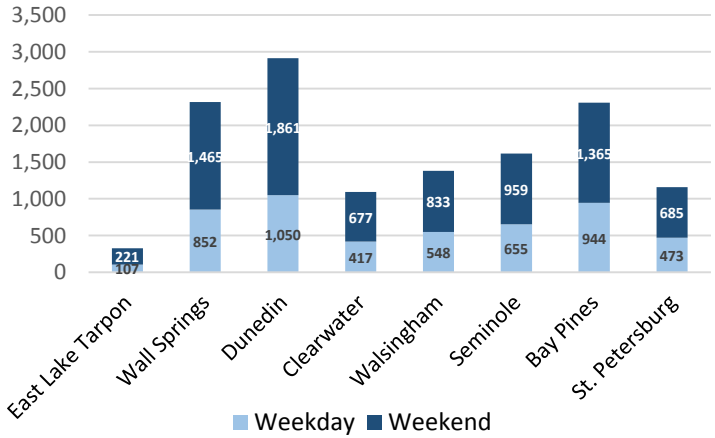
Monthly Trail Users by Counter Location



Counter Locations



Average Weekday & Weekend Profile



Trail User Mode Split

East Lake Tarpon:	15%	85%
Wall Springs:	22%	78%
Dunedin:	10%	90%
Clearwater:	12%	88%
Walsingham:	16%	84%
Seminole:	25%	75%
Bay Pines:	61%	39%
St. Petersburg:	24%	76%

Source: Forward Pinellas February 2017

PAC AGENDA – SUMMARY AGENDA ACTION SHEET
DATE: APRIL 3, 2017

ITEM	ACTION TAKEN	VOTE
1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS	The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.	
2. MINUTES OF REGULAR PAC MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2017	Motion: Dean Neal Second: Marie Dauphinais	10-0
3. REVIEW OF FORWARD PINELLAS AGENDA FOR APRIL 12, 2017 MEETING PUBLIC HEARINGS Subthreshold Countywide Plan Map Amendments None		
Regular Countywide Plan Map Amendments A. CW-91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017) – City of Pinellas Park	Motion: Marshall Touchton Second: Jan Norsoph	10-0
B. CW 17-2 – City of Pinellas Park	Motion: Lauren Matzke Second: Marcie Stenmark	10-0
C. CPA Actions and Tier I Countywide Plan Map Amendments March 2017	None; informational item only	
4. PLANNING TOPICS OF INTEREST A. Transit-Oriented Land Use Vision Map – Follow Up from Forward Pinellas Work Session	Rodney Chatman reported back to the PAC regarding some of the board member comments from the March 31st work session relating to the vision map. Heather Sobush also advised her key takeaways which included the fact that the board members wished to place the BRT route on the map with stations. She stated that overall the board members felt the work and data behind Greenlight were still valuable and useable. Rodney advised that next steps would include a review of the current Countywide Rules and consideration of an amendment to them if warranted. Forward Pinellas is also considering the possibility of having two maps; one a visionary map and the other regulatory. He suggested the PAC members would benefit from the Central Ave BRT presentation by PSTA.	

DRAFT

B. Pinellas County Stormwater Manual	Rahim Harji, Director, Pinellas County Public Works, provided background information on the development of the new Stormwater Manual which was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on February 21, 2017 and became effective April 1, 2017. He reviewed the purpose of the manual, the public involvement process, and the primary areas of change. He outlined the manual broadly to include performance standards, best management practices, case studies and next steps. He answered several questions that arose from the PAC members and advised of upcoming training sessions.	
5. OTHER PAC BUSINESS/PAC DISCUSSION AND UPCOMING AGENDA A. Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update	Rodney Chatman briefly updated the PAC on the SPOTlight Emphasis Areas noting that Forward Pinellas will continue to focus on the same areas in the coming months as some areas have received less attention to this point. He advised there is a bill in the legislative session at present regarding waterborne transportation and the Mayor Kriseman is focusing on the results from the Cross Bay Ferry pilot and discussing future options. Forward Pinellas continues its work with Pinellas County on the US 19 Economic Analysis and including Tarpon Springs in the study area.	
B. Truth in Annexation Online Worksheet – Update for 2016/17 Fiscal Year	Linda Fisher demonstrated the new version of the worksheet as found on the Forward Pinellas website and thanked the PAC members for providing the updates on the data required to run the application.	
C. Legislative Update	Linda Fisher updated the PAC members on bills of interest currently making their way through this legislative session.	
6. UPCOMING EVENTS	The PAC members received and shared information regarding upcoming events of interest.	
7. ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.	

Respectfully Submitted,

_____ _____

PAC Chairman Date

DRAFT

April 12, 2017

8G. Committee Vacancies

FORWARD PINELLAS
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

SUMMARY

- **Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)**

The BPAC currently has one opening. This opening is for the St. Petersburg area to include St. Petersburg, Gulfport, South Pasadena and Tierra Verde.

- **Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)**

The CAC currently has one opening. A Pinellas Park, Mid-County positon remains open.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- BPAC Membership Listing (see 4Ba)
- CAC Membership Listing

ACTION: None required; informational item only

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP LIST

St. Petersburg Area
- Daryl Krumsieg
- R. Lee Allen
- Stephen Lasky
- Robby Thompson

Clearwater Area
- Neil McMullen (Chairman)
- Karen Cunningham

Dunedin Area
- Karen Mullins (Vice-Chair)
- Bob Henion

Pinellas Park and Mid-County Area
- Geneva Waters
- Vacant

Largo Area
- Joe Falanga
- Julie Daniels

Beaches Area
- Steven Yost
- Terri Novitsky

Gulfport, Kenneth City, Seminole, Belleair, So. Pasadena, Belleair Bluffs Area
- Jack Nazario

Tarpon Springs, Oldsmar, Safety Harbor Area
- Larry Roybal
- Becky Afonso

At Large
- Kim Marston
- Vivian Peters
- Patricia Rodriguez
- Norris Varkalhoff
- Carson Zimmer
- Jack Kleban
- Tammy Vrana
- John Estok
- Jake Stowers