

FORWARD PINELLAS REAPPORTIONMENT

Fall 2024



Forward Pinellas

Itegrating Land Use & Transportation

Forward Pinellas

- Formed by the merger of two Pinellas County agencies: the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Pinellas Planning Council (PPC)
- Metropolitan Planning Organization addresses transportation/mobility needs across the county
- Pinellas Planning Council coordinates land use decision making across the county
- Our role
 - Serve as a forum for countywide decision making on transportation and land use issues
 - Provide technical assistance to 24 local governments and unincorporated Pinellas County







- Voting members of the Forward Pinellas Board consist of elected officials who represent:
 - Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
 - 24 Pinellas municipalities
 - Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA)



- 9 advisory committees
- Local and regional partnerships
 - Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA)
 - Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)
 - Regional MPOs, etc.

Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month (Live streamed at pinellas.gov)



MPO APPORTIONMENT

-

Apportionment Overview

- Identifies the geographic area and voting membership of an MPO
- Federal law requires that every urbanized area greater than 50,000 residents be represented by an MPO
 - Urbanized areas are designated by the Census
- Apportionment plans must be reviewed after each Decennial Census
 - Voting membership is determined by population distribution
- Once approved by the Governor, the local governments in the MPO area must sign an updated Interlocal Agreement to designate the MPO





MPO Voting Structure

- State law requires between 5 and 25 voting members representing local elected officials, public agencies that operate/administer major transportation systems
 - Exact number determined based on population ratio and agreement among local governments
 - Other MPO voting provisions:
 - Minimum number of County Commissioners (20% of votes)
 - Rotating/shared seats permitted



Total and Percent Change in Population from 2010 to 2020

Seat	Existing Number of Seats	Total Change in Population	Percent Change in Population
Board of County Commissioners	3	5,175	1.9%
St. Petersburg	2	13,539	5.2%
Clearwater	1	9,607	8.2%
Largo	1	4,837	5.9%
Pinellas Park	1	4,014	7.6%
Beaches	1	-1,471	-4.9%
Dunedin	1	747	2.1%
North County	1	3,128	5.5%
Inland Communities	1	3,025	6.3%
PSTA	1	N/A	



Existing Board Voting Structure

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



New Voting Structure

<u>\$</u>

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

Considerations

- Shared seats had 2-year terms
 - Learning curve
 - Limited opportunities to attain leadership positions
 - Solution: Divide shared seats and increase term length to 3 years
- St. Petersburg and Clearwater
 - Share of population increasing
- Board of County Commissioners
 - Percentage of total population decreasing but remains high
 - BCC appointees may only represent certain geographical districts – not the entire county
 - One BCC rep must be from an At-Large District









Next Steps

- Approval of the Interlocal Agreement
- Local Government Appointee(s) to Forward Pinellas
- January: New Forward Pinellas Board is seated







Discussion

info@forwardpinellas.org 727-464-8250 www.forwardpinellas.org

