

RESOLUTION NO. 16-20

**A RESOLUTION OF CITY OF CLEARWATER
SUPPORTING THE VISION OF A BIKE SHARING
PROGRAM IN PINELLAS COUNTY.**

WHEREAS, the City of Clearwater has found that bicycling provides health benefits to City residents and contributes to improved air quality by reducing the consumption of gasoline and emission of pollutants; and

WHEREAS, bike sharing programs are most successful in dense, urban places with a prevalence of short trips and extensive public transit, and is ideally suited for certain areas of Pinellas County; and

WHEREAS, many cities of all sizes across the United States have implemented bike sharing programs which have been found to increase bicycle access, reduce parking demands, promote tourism and increase bicycling activities; and

WHEREAS, bike sharing programs are shown to fuel local economies by spurring more trips to local shops and institutions, including in the Washington, D.C. metro region, where a study found that 44% of respondents used bike share to make at least one trip in a month that they would not have made if bike share had not been available, almost all of which were for shopping, eating and entertainment; and

WHEREAS, the installation of bike sharing stations can be fast and easy, requiring no digging or roadwork, and instead using solar power and wireless technology; and

WHEREAS, bike sharing programs can be equipped with GPS that provides opportunities for open data sharing for system monitoring, evaluation, and analysis; and

WHEREAS, the City of Clearwater finds that implementing a bike share program in the near term will rely on public, private, and non-profit leadership in order to secure the resources necessary to establish a program; and

WHEREAS, implementation of a bike sharing program in the City of Clearwater will require extensive cooperation and collaboration across many sectors including businesses, schools, civic institutions, Forward Pinellas, Pinellas County, and various departments of the City to address:

1. Financial support for both establishing and maintaining bike sharing stations at appropriate locations within public rights-of-way.

2. Planning for site locations including considerations of safety, accessibility, social equity and environmental justice.
3. Appropriate mechanisms to reduce risk and provide indemnification.
4. Attention to issues of appropriate signage and advertising.
5. Strategy for monitoring maintenance, operations, appearance of the system, and for evaluating success and community benefits; and

WHEREAS, Forward Pinellas has studied and endorsed bike sharing because it offers self-service access to bicycles for short trips without the hassle of maintenance or storage of a bicycle, it complements traditional public transit by serving first- and last-mile needs, it provides residents and visitors alike with more travel options, it is also a clean, affordable, healthy and fun option for getting around; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Clearwater supports the vision of a bike sharing program as part of the transportation solution for Pinellas County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ day of _____, 2016.

CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA

By: _____
George N. Cretekos
Mayor

Approved as to form:

Attest:

Pamela K. Akin
City Attorney

Rosemarie Call
City Clerk