Pinellas County complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To obtain accessible formats of this document, please contact the Finance Division at (727) 464-8300.
Pinellas County, Florida’s Profile

Pinellas is an urban county located on the western coast of Florida, on a peninsula, bounded on the east by Tampa Bay and on the west by the Gulf of Mexico. Pinellas County’s population density is the highest of all sixty-seven Florida counties. This County is also the second smallest in land mass in Florida; measuring up to thirty-eight miles long and fifteen miles wide. The sparkling water of the Gulf of Mexico, award winning beaches, stunning sunsets and balmy weather make Pinellas an inviting destination for visitors and home to a diverse population of residents.

Leisure and recreational activities abound for residents and visitors of Pinellas County. Baseball is one of Pinellas County’s favored attractions as the proud home of the major league baseball team, the Tampa Bay Rays in St. Petersburg. Both the Philadelphia Phillies and the Toronto Blue Jays maintain their spring training quarters in Pinellas County. With the County surrounded on three sides by water, many benefit from fishing, boating and park activities. Fort De Soto has consistently been recognized as being one of the Top Ten U.S. Beaches. This year, Caledesi, Pass-a-Grille and Clearwater were voted within America’s Top Twenty-five beaches by TripAdvisor.

The County has numerous locations exemplifying our culture and history. The Florida Botanical Gardens’ exhibits of native flora and fauna can be seen at Pinewood Cultural Park. The Clearwater Marine Aquarium is the home of Winter, the Dolphin featured in the movie, Dolphin Tale. Heritage Village and Fort De Soto Park provide a glimpse of Pinellas County’s cultural history.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pinellas County, Florida’s Profile</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Message from Ken Burke</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duties of the Clerk of the Circuit Court</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About This Report</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinellas County Government</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sources of County Funds</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Property Taxes</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Descriptions</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uses of County Funds</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund Revenues and Other Sources</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund Expenditures and Other Uses</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Fund Revenues and Expenses</td>
<td>13-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Assets and Outstanding Bond Issues</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Policy</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accomplishments</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Initiatives</td>
<td>18-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Employers and Principal Property Taxpayers</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Contact Pinellas County</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Citizens of Pinellas County:

I am pleased to present the Citizens’ Guide to County Finances (Citizens’ Guide) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2012. As your elected Clerk, I serve as the Chief Financial Officer of the Board of County Commissioners and share fiscal responsibility for County funds with them. This report provides you, the citizens a brief analysis of where County revenues came from and where those dollars were spent during the last fiscal year. It also shows trend information on revenues and expenditures for the last three fiscal years. It is designed to give you an easy-to-read synopsis of the County’s financial health.

The Citizens’ Guide summarizes the financial activities of the primary government of Pinellas County. The reports included in the Citizens’ Guide condense and simplify the format used in our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) as of September 30, 2012 described below. The Citizens’ Guide does not conform to generally accepted accounting principles and governmental reporting standards. The report is prepared in this format so that the non-financial reader can easily understand it. The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded Pinellas County the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011 for its Citizens’ Guide for the sixth consecutive year.

In addition to the Citizens’ Guide, the Finance Division produces the CAFR which contains more detailed financial information. The GFOA awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Pinellas County for its CAFR for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011, the 31st consecutive year that we have achieved this prestigious award.

The CAFR as well as this report are accessible at the Clerk’s website at www.pinellasclerk.org and in the Finance Division. If you have any comments or suggestions on how we may improve this report, please contact my office at (727) 464-3341.

I thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Clerk and hope that you find this Citizens’ Guide informative and useful in enhancing your understanding of our County’s finances.

Sincerely,

Ken Burke, CPA
Clerk of the Circuit Court
and Comptroller
Duties of the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

The Clerk of the Circuit Court was established as a public trustee by the Florida Constitution in 1838. Today, the Florida Statutes assign over 926 tasks to the Clerk of the Circuit Court. The Clerk serves as the Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts, Recorder of Deeds, Clerk and Accountant to the Board of County Commissioners, custodian of all county funds and as the County Auditor. The Clerk’s role as an elected public trustee is considered to be one of the most important aspects of the position because he serves at the will of the people. It is the Clerk’s responsibility to serve as a “watchdog” for the citizens of Pinellas County to ensure funds expended are only for a public purpose and for the benefit of the public as a whole.

As Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts

- maintains custody of court records
- maintains custody of all related pleadings filed
- secures evidence entered in court
- ensures integrity of court files is protected
- collects and disburses court fines and assessments and court ordered child support
- summons prospective jurors

As Recorder of Deeds

- maintains Official Records of Pinellas County and ensures their integrity is protected

As Clerk and Accountant of the Board of County Commissioners

- maintains official records of the Board
- maintains county financial records and prepares financial reports
- provides accounting services to all departments under the Board
- programs and maintains software for the automated financial accounting system
- processes accounts payable, accounts receivable and payroll and pre-audits all payments

As Custodian of all County Funds

- receives and records county revenue
- invests county funds

As County Auditor

- performs comptroller function in pre-audit of invoices before payment
- performs internal audits of county departments
About This Report

This Popular Report provides an overview of the areas of responsibility and the operations of Pinellas County's Constitutional Officers and excludes component units:

- Board of County Commissioners (BCC)
- Property Appraiser
- Sheriff
- Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
- Supervisor of Elections
- Tax Collector

The financial information presented here is summarized and does not substitute for the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR outlines the County's financial position and operating activities for the year in great detail and in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

This report reflects the Sources and Uses of County funds as well as a summary of the governmental activities and business-type activities. They are distinguished as follows:

- **Governmental activities** include most of the basic services offered to citizens, including tax assessment and collections, fire and law enforcement protection, judicial services, emergency medical services, civil emergency services, construction and maintenance of highways, streets and other infrastructure, economic development, social and human services, and cultural and recreational services. Property and sales and use taxes, intergovernmental revenues and various user fees finance these operations.

- **Business-type activities** include the water, sewer, solid waste and airport systems that are financed by fees charged to customers.

Information on the County's capital assets, and outstanding bond issues and investments is included on pages 15 through 16 of this report. Revenues and expenditures of the General Fund for the last three years are shown on pages 11 through 12.
The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Pinellas County, Florida for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability, and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.
Pinellas County Government

Pinellas County is a charter county established under the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida in 1911. In 1968, the Florida Constitution was amended to provide home rule powers for counties and municipalities. The voters of Pinellas County approved the first home rule charter in 1980. Pinellas was the first county in Florida to operate under a Board of County Commissioners/Administrator form of government. The elected Constitutional Officers include the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Supervisor of Elections, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser and Sheriff. The seven member Board serves as the legislative body, and budgets and provides the funding for its departments, the entire operations of the Sheriff and the Supervisor of Elections and portions of the operations for the other Constitutional Officers.

Board of County Commissioners
Janet C. Long - District 1
janetclong@pinellascounty.org
Norman Roche - District 2
nroche@pinellascounty.org
Charlie Justice - District 3
cjustice@pinellascounty.org
Susan Latvala - District 4
slatvala@pinellascounty.org
Karen Williams Seel - District 5
kseel@pinellascounty.org
John Morroni, Vice-Chairman - District 6
jmorroni@pinellascounty.org
Kenneth T. Welch, Chairman - District 7
ktwelch@pinellascounty.org

Constitutional Officers
Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
www.pinellasclerk.org
Deborah Clark, Supervisor of Elections
www.votepinellas.com
Diane Nelson, Tax Collector
www.taxcollect.com
Pam Dubov, Property Appraiser
www.pcpao.org
Bob Gualtieri, Sheriff
www.pscoweb.com
Sources of County Funds

Pinellas County receives its revenue to fund governmental activities from many sources. Revenue is generated from property taxes, charges for services, sales and other taxes, grants and interest income. In fiscal year 2011-2012, property taxes generated 44.4 percent of the county’s governmental activities revenues.

Revenues in the County's governmental activities increased $16.4 million or 2 percent over the prior year. The countywide property tax levy has remained the same for the last four years, following a reduction of 10.6 percent from fiscal year 2006-2007 to fiscal year 2007-2008 for all governmental activities with the exception of the Emergency Medical Services Fund and several fire districts to cover contractual requirements. Taxable assessed values decreased by 4.5 percent countywide due to the downturn in the real estate market and the economic recession, resulting in a 1.2 percent net decrease in property tax revenues or $4.2 million from last year for all governmental activities.

Charges for services, increased during the year by $7.6 million or 5 percent, attributable mostly to increased user fees. Grant revenue, which includes intergovernmental revenue increased by $6.7 million over the prior year. Sales tax revenue increased by $6.2 million, 6 percent, reflecting signs of economic recovery in the area.
Your Property Taxes

Taxable assessed values decreased by 4.5 percent countywide due to the downturn in the real estate market and the severe economic recession, resulting in a 1.2 percent net decrease in property tax revenues from fiscal year 2010-2011 to fiscal year 2011-2012. From fiscal year 2009-2010 to fiscal year 2011-2012, assessed values have decreased by 14 percent and property tax revenues by 10 percent.
**Revenue Descriptions**

**General Revenues**

*Property taxes* are ad valorem taxes levied on an assessed valuation of real and/or personal property. These taxes are collected annually and are computed as a percentage of the fair market value of locally assessed real estate, and tangible personal property. Property taxes are considered general revenue for the county.

*Sales taxes and other taxes* are comprised of the following:

The 1 cent infrastructure sales tax or the Penny for Pinellas is imposed for funding infrastructure projects that normally would have to be funded by increased property taxes or other revenue sources. The Penny for Pinellas is earmarked for capital improvement projects for roads, flood control, park improvements, preservation of endangered lands and public safety. The Penny for Pinellas is paid by all who spend money in the county, including tourists and visitors.

The tourist development tax is a local tax imposed on most rentals or leases, which have been contracted for periods of (6) months or less, or living accommodations in hotels, motels, apartment houses, rooming houses, and mobile home parks. The revenues are used for tourist development, beach re-nourishment, debt service and promoting and advertising tourism internationally, nationally and in the State of Florida.

Fuel tax (local option gas tax) is a tax on every net gallon of motor and diesel fuel sold in Pinellas County. It is a county imposed tax for the purpose of paying the cost of establishing, operating and maintaining a transportation system and related facilities and the cost of acquisition, construction, reconstruction and maintenance of roads and streets.

Communication service tax is comprised of two components: a state communications services tax and a local communication services tax. The tax is imposed on retail sales of communications services which originate and terminate in the state, or originate or terminate in the state and are billed to an address within the state. Tax proceeds are transferred to the county. Communications services are defined as voice, data, audio, video or any other information or signals, including cable services.

*Unrestricted interest* is the revenue earned from investments.

**Program Revenues**

*Charges for services* are made up of fees collected from the public for services rendered (e.g. court costs, building permits, park fees, animal licenses, etc.)

*Operating grants and contributions* are monies received to fund the operating expenses of a specific program or project. Operating expenses can include salaries and wages, rent, utilities and more.

*Capital grants and contributions* are monies received for the acquisition of capital assets, such as buildings, land or equipment.
Uses of County Funds

Governmental activities include most of the basic services offered to citizens, including tax assessment and collections, election services, fire and law enforcement protection, judicial services, emergency medical services, civil emergency services, construction and maintenance of highways, streets and other infrastructure, natural resources conservation, economic and community development, social and human services, and cultural and recreational services. Property and sales and use taxes, intergovernmental revenues and various user fees finance these operations.

![Governmental Activities Expenses (dollars in millions)](chart)

The cost of governmental activities increased 5 percent or $33.7 million over the prior year. The largest increase was in the human services function representing $26.5 million. $15 million of this increase was due to an unanticipated state mandate for counties to fund a greater portion of Medicaid costs going back to 2001 and $8 million was due to establishing the new Health Program fund to account for indigent health care services. Expenses for the general government were down by $8.3 million or 5 percent from the prior year due to budget reductions. Public safety expenses were up $7 million or 2 percent over the prior year due to capital construction spending for the public safety campus and jail facilities. Economic environment expenses were up by $6.7 million or 19 percent due to community development expenditures.
The general fund is the primary operating fund of the county that accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except for those that are required to be accounted for in another fund. Appropriations for the General Fund for the fiscal year including reserves totaled $570.3 million. Key financial factors for the year were as follows:

- Overall General Fund revenues and other financing sources were down by $16.6 million or 4 percent from last year. From fiscal year 2009-2010 to fiscal year 2011-2012, general fund revenues decreased by $51.9 million or 10 percent.

- Tax revenue decreased by $15.5 million, due primarily to decreased property taxes of $15.7 million. The communication services tax revenue increased by $.2 million.

- Intergovernmental revenues were up by $1.7 million or 3 percent. The increase was due mostly to increases in one half cent sales tax and revenue sharing collection.

- Charges for services were up by $2.7 million.

- Other financing sources include transfers from other funds and excess fees from the Constitutional Officers. These amounts were down $2.2 million or 13% from the prior year.
The General Fund is used to pay the regular operating and administrative expenses not accounted for in other funds. From fiscal year 2009-2010 to fiscal year 2011-2012, general fund expenditures decreased by 13 percent. The following expenditures for the departments are paid from the General Fund (including transfers of funds):

- General Government
  - Board of County Commissioners, County Administrator, Public Defender, State Attorney, County Attorney, Court Technology, Court Related Programs, Information Services, Communications, Office of Management and Budget, Real Estate and Facility Management, Law Libraries, Telecommunications, Planning, Developmental Review Services and Purchasing
- Public Safety
  - Medical Examiner, Emergency Communications (911), Fire Operations, Justice and Consumer Services
- Physical Environment
  - County Extension, Conservation & Resource Management, Environmental Management, Air Quality, Coastal and Navigation Management
- Transportation
  - Public Works, Engineering, Transportation Planning, Structures Division, Civil Site Division, Surface Water Management, Construction Administration and Inspection and Survey Division
- Economic Environment
  - Veteran's Services, Community Development and Housing Programs, Neighborhood Programs, Economic Development and Human Rights
- Human Services
  - Social Services, Animal Services, State Mandates-Medicaid, Community Funded Programs, Social Work and Support Units, Outreach Units and Mosquito Control
- Culture and Recreation
  - Parks and Recreation, Libraries, Museums, Cultural Affairs, Horticultural Operations and the Florida Botanical Gardens
- Transfers out to other Constitutional Officers and other funds
Enterprise Fund Revenues and Expenses

The following charts reflect the enterprise fund revenues and expenses for the last three years.

Enterprise fund or business-type activities offer goods and services to the citizens of the county and are intended to be self-supporting. Revenues in business-type activities increased 3 percent from the prior year by $8.4 million. Expenses were down by 22.8 million or 10 percent from the prior year. From fiscal year 2009-2010 to fiscal year 2011-2012, revenues increased by 3 percent or $8 million and expenses decreased by 9 percent or $19 million.
Enterprise Fund Revenues and Expenses

The Business-type activities of the county are:

Water System

- Total program revenues for the Water System, including interest revenue, miscellaneous revenue and capital contributions, decreased by $1.2 million or 1 percent.
- Charges for services to retail and wholesale customers decreased $1.7 million due to decreased consumption.
- Operating expenses of the Water System increased by 3 percent or $2.9 million from last year. The cost of water purchased from Tampa Bay Water increased by $1.2 million from last year.
- Other increases in operating expenses were due to settlement of a claim for $1.5 million and increases in intragovernmental services partially offset by a decrease in personal services. The Water System reimbursed the Sewer System $1 million during the year in support of the reclaimed water system operations.

Sewer System

- During fiscal year 2012, total program revenues increased by $5 million or 9 percent. Charges for services to customers increased by $5 million or 9 percent. This was attributable to a retail sewer rate increase of 6 percent, wholesale rate increase of 9 percent and various increases in reclaimed water rates.
- Annual operating expenses increased by $3 million or 6 percent due to increases in the cost of operating the facilities.
- The Sewer System received $2 million from the Water System during the year in support of the reclaimed water system.
- Interest expense was down by $1.1 million as a result of savings from bond refundings and an increase in capitalized interest.

Solid Waste System

- Total program revenues of the solid waste system decreased by $.9 million or 1 percent over last year.
- Charges for services decreased 1 percent or $1 million due to a reduction in the tonnage received in the facility and a reduction in sales of scrap metal.
- Operating expenses for the system were down by $27 million or 41 percent from the prior year primarily as a result of a change in estimate in the liability for landfill closure costs. Approximately $27.9 million of the decrease was due to an adjustment to account for an increase in the overall capacity for the landfill due to the addition of side slopes and a reduction in the estimate of the capacity used due to decomposition and compaction of waste.

St. Petersburg/Clearwater International Airport

- Total program revenues for the Airport decreased by $50,000 or 0.1 percent over the prior year.
- Charges for services were down by $36,000.
- Capital contributions were up by $5.3 million due to funding for the construction of the rehabilitation of the runways and parking lots.
- Operating expenses decreased by $993,546 due to a reduction in contractual services, utilities services, supplies, other operating expenses and depreciation expense.
**Capital Assets**

**Outstanding Bond Issues**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Original Issued Amount</th>
<th>Amount Outstanding at year end</th>
<th>Current Maturities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2003</td>
<td>Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2003</td>
<td>$86,580</td>
<td>$9,540</td>
<td>$2,110</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2006</td>
<td>Sewer Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2006</td>
<td>25,205</td>
<td>21,470</td>
<td>1,290</td>
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<td>July 2008</td>
<td>Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2008A</td>
<td>42,005</td>
<td>40,670</td>
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<td>July 2008</td>
<td>Sewer Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2008 B-1</td>
<td>32,700</td>
<td>32,435</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2011</td>
<td>Sewer Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2011</td>
<td>20,870</td>
<td>20,290</td>
<td>3,225</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2012</td>
<td>Sewer Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2012</td>
<td>59,510</td>
<td>59,510</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$266,870</td>
<td>$183,915</td>
<td>$4,240</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The County’s Series 2003, 2006, and 2012 bonds have underlying ratings as follows: Moody’s Aa2; Standard and Poors- AA-; Fitch-AA.
Investment Policy

The Clerk of the Circuit Court, through the Finance Division, conducts all investment activity of the Board of County Commissioners in accordance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, Local Government Investment Policies, as well as the investment ordinance adopted by the Board (Pinellas County Code, Investment of Surplus Public Funds, Section 2-144) and Board Resolution 10-2 adopting investment policies. The investment policy and the ordinance can be found at:

http://www.pinellasclerk.org/aspInclude2/ASPInclude.asp?pageName=transparency2.htm#investpo

The Board's investment policy applies to all funds in excess of those required to meet current expenses for the Board of County Commissioners. The Association of Public Treasurers of the United States and Canada (APT US&C) awarded Pinellas County in July 2010 with the Certification of Excellence for its investment policy. This certification should be renewed every three years. Receiving this certification denotes the County has a sound investment policy founded upon professional standards to assist in ensuring prudent management of public funds.

Investment Objectives

- Safety - Protection of the County funds.
- Liquidity - Provide sufficient liquidity to meet the County's operating, payroll and capital expenses.
- Income - Maximize the return but avoid assuming unreasonable risk.

PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO
(dollars in thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investments</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treasury Securities</td>
<td>$20,863</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Agency Issues</td>
<td>325,759</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Funds Depository Accounts</td>
<td>249,106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Investment Pools (LGIP)</td>
<td>20,405</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash Pools</td>
<td>71,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$687,407</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accomplishments

General Government

The County substantially completed the implementation of an Enterprise Resource Planning project called Oracle Project Unified Solution (OPUS) during the fiscal year. OPUS provides an integrated countywide financial platform that supports all aspects of the County's financial and human resources operations. The initial phases included applications supporting the County's human resource and financial functions. The Project Accounting and Hyperion Planning and Budgeting applications went live during fiscal year 2011/2012. The next phase includes the Performance Scorecard application and enhancements to the Hyperion Planning and Budgeting application which will be implemented in fiscal year 2012/2013. In conjunction with the OPUS project, efficiencies were gained through implementing electronic workflow approvals, e-commerce solutions and imaging.

Pinellas County launched an ambitious redesign of its Website, focusing on providing on-line services (bill payment, make reservations, applying for social services and public record searches) and making the site more easily navigable. Through this endeavor, Pinellas County earned the second place national award in the 2012 Best of the Web and Digital Government Achievement Awards, in the County Portal category. The announcement was made by the Republic's Center for Digital Government. This award recognizes outstanding government portals and Websites based on their innovations, functionality and efficiencies.

To curtail the effects of nitrogen pollution, Pinellas County adopted a fertilizer ordinance addressing overuse and improper application of residential landscape fertilizers. This ordinance bans the sale of nitrogen fertilizers from June to September and requires the sale of slow-release fertilizers the rest of the year. This aggressive step by the Watershed Management Section earned Pinellas County an award for excellence in environmental science from Tampa Bay Area Environmental Professionals.

Public Safety

Pinellas County retained the services of an experienced firm specializing in Emergency Medical System (EMS) and fire rescue system and process design, to objectively review its EMS system with the following goals: maintain the current level of service, equalize funding among providers, contain costs and create sustainability. An initial study recommended shifting to a fire-based medical support model. The feasibility of this concept will be analyzed during fiscal 2012-2013. Through a joint effort between Pinellas County Animal Services, SPCA Tampa and the Humane Society Pinellas, a three-agency reporting system was established allowing each agency to consistently report monthly animal intake and outcomes, thus providing a county-wide view of animal activity. One of the key factors in a community-wide approach to reducing euthanasia is finding a way for all the major organizations involved to share their numbers. Pinellas County has more pets licensed and vaccinated than any other county in the state.

Environment and Infrastructure

To promote the green initiative, the County, in conjunction with a Federal grant, implemented major energy efficiency improvements to two apartment complexes during construction renovation. A total of 59 apartment units were improved. Efficiency upgrades included high impact, insulated, low-e windows; Energy Star HVAC systems; digital programmable thermostats; Energy Star lighting fixtures; Energy Star appliances and water heaters, and improved insulation. This same grant funded the design costs for a new centralized chiller facility.
**Future Initiatives**

**General Government**

The Clerk’s office continues to seek service delivery enhancements for the public. E-filing for the Criminal Courts is slated for October 1, 2013. Odyssey case management system is set for implementation soon thereafter. The new system will be capable of producing reports that will more simply extract information from the system. The Public Access module will make it simpler for the public to navigate the screens to find the information they need.

The County will be continuing to pursue energy reduction projects such as construction of a centralized chiller plant providing new energy efficient equipment, operational efficiencies, elimination of future expenditures for replacement of existing equipment and a new revenue source.

Through collaboration of law enforcement, the criminal justice system, local governments and community service groups throughout the County, a grant was obtained to begin planning a full time civil domestic violence court. The new court is expected to launch in fiscal year 2012-2013.

A new homebuyer initiative, known as Proud Ground Pinellas, is designed for Pinellas County veterans and active service personnel. Foreclosed or abandoned properties are purchased and renovated to stem the negative impacts of unattended properties in communities. This program provides quality, move-in ready homes at incredible prices.

Pinellas County ranks third in the state of Florida in the number of veterans living in a county. Pinellas County plans to expand services to homeless veterans living in Pinellas County. This expansion of services includes increasing outreach efforts and services to homeless veterans to get them into housing and treatment programs, provide them with quality healthcare, give them vocational training and access to programs and services they need. The county will be adding two new sites for a total of four sites available to veterans.

The County is currently engaged in several other strategic business solutions to move the organization forward with technology in the future such as Justice Consolidated Case Management System (JUSTICE CCMS), Community Help and Electronic Data Application System (CHEDAS), Enterprise Graphic Information System (Enterprise GIS), and Enterprise Asset Management (EAM).

- The JUSTICE CCMS project will be a commercial off the shelf, vendor supported solution to replace the thirty year old consolidated criminal justice system utilized by the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Judiciary, Public Defender, State Attorney, Sheriff, Board and many other agencies. JUSTICE CCMS will replace many complex in-house systems and interfaces.

- The CHEDAS project is a new commercial off the shelf solution for the Health and Human Services Department to help ensure that vital services are efficiently delivered to citizens. CHEDAS will replace numerous legacy systems and extensive manual processes with a streamlined and automated workflow-driven integrated system.

- The Enterprise GIS initiative will provide a collaborative framework for all County stakeholders to replace multiple legacy GIS with a single, new state-of-the-art GIS from a leading vendor. This solution will enable the County to provide more reliable GIS services to extensive user communities including employees, municipal partners and citizens.
Future Initiatives

Public Safety

EMS is expanding its current use of electronic patient care reporting systems throughout 16 additional fire departments acting as paramedic first responders. This phase will provide these systems to all pre-hospital care providers in the County. The system enhances accuracy of patient medical information, while reducing the time needed to collect and process patient medical records.

The Technology Division of the Public Safety Services Department continues to enhance interoperability in Pinellas County and across the Tampa Bay Region with the implementation of the national P25 Standards based technology for the 700/800 MHz countywide public safety communications system. The County has received UASI grant funding and, as part of a County CIP project, the County will complete the transition in 2014. The Division is also implementing an interface to allow computers to electronically share information between disparate fire/EMS systems and law enforcement systems, thereby improving communication between various first responders.

In concert with a multi-phased approach, the County will be implementing the third phase of the Medical Priority Dispatch project. With this project, a determination will be made about the urgency of a call and the appropriate County response. This will ensure emergency response vehicles are available for other calls, improving response times to life-threatening emergencies.

Transportation

Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is focused on improving transportation throughout the county and has kicked off an effort to create a 30-year blueprint for the entire county transportation system. Through new and innovative methods of participation, such as www.TellUsPinellas.com, residents can help shape the county transportation plan. There is current movement to consolidate the Pinellas Planning Council PPC and MPO; this consolidation is dependent upon proposed legislation in progress.

The County will continue its initiative of using technology to improve the flow of traffic in the County through intelligent transportation systems, focusing on high priority traffic corridors in order to work within available resources.

Environment and Infrastructure

The County will continue to develop new or enhanced recycling programs, to include: 1) a new Household Electronics and Chemical Collection Facility to be developed to serve the North County area, and 2) to make Solid Waste substantially water self-sufficient, a new water treatment facility will be constructed to support the Waste-to-Energy (WTE) facility.
Principal Employers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer</th>
<th>Number of Employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pinellas County School District</td>
<td>15,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay Pines VA Medical Center</td>
<td>4,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of St. Petersburg</td>
<td>3,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Children's Hospital</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Petersburg College</td>
<td>2,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raymond James Financial</td>
<td>2,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinellas County Sheriff</td>
<td>2,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morton Plant Hospital</td>
<td>2,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mease Hospital</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayfront Medical Center</td>
<td>2,025</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Employment a

40,917

a Source: Florida Research and Economic Database and Pinellas County Department of Economic Development

Principal Property Taxpayers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taxpayer</th>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Taxable Assessed Value a</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida Power Corporation</td>
<td>Electric Utility</td>
<td>$ 1,244,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verizon Florida Inc</td>
<td>Phone Utility</td>
<td>274,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bright House Networks LLC</td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>152,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publix Super Market</td>
<td>Grocery</td>
<td>135,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellwether Prop Fla</td>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>119,776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeBartolo (Tyrone Square, Inc.)</td>
<td>Shopping Mall</td>
<td>115,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Val-Pak Direct Marketing</td>
<td>Mail Marketing</td>
<td>67,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wal-Mart Stores East LP</td>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>65,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largo Medical</td>
<td>Medical Facility</td>
<td>59,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin Templeton</td>
<td>Financial Advisor</td>
<td>51,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jabil Circuit</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>27,003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$ 2,397,524

Total Taxable Assessed Value

$ 55,437,302

a Source: Pinellas County Property Appraiser: dollars in thousands
How to Contact Pinellas County

Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
(727) 464-3341
www.pinellasclerk.org

Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
(727) 464-3377
www.pinellascounty.org

Supervisor of Elections
Elections Service Center
Starkey Lakes Corporate Center
13001 Starkey Road
Largo, FL 33773
(727) 464-6108
www.votepinellas.com

Tax Collector
Main Office
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
(727) 562-3262
www.taxcollect.com

Property Appraiser
County Courthouse
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
(727) 464-3207
www.pcpao.org

Sheriff
10750 Ulmerton Road
Largo, FL 33778
(727) 582-6200
www.pscoweb.com

Lake Seminole

Pinellas County Government is committed to progressive public policy, superior public service, courteous public contact, judicious exercise of authority and sound management of public resources, to meet the needs and concerns of our citizens today and tomorrow.
This Citizens’ Guide to County Finances was prepared by the Finance Division, the Clerk’s Print Shop and the Board of County Commissioners Communications Department.