

City of St. Petersburg
Committee of the Whole
April 18, 2024 @ 2:00 PM
City Hall, Room 100

Members: Council Chair Deborah Figgs-Sanders, Council Vice-Chair Copley Gerdes,
Council Members Brandi Gabbard, Ed Montanari, Lisset Hanewicz, Gina
Driscoll, John Muhammad, and Richie Floyd

Support Staff: Kimberly Amos – City Council Legislative Aide

1) Call to Order

2) Approval of Agenda

3) Approval of January 25, 2024 Minutes

4) New Business – April 18, 2024

- a) Potential Charter amendments concerning the City Council and Mayoral vacancies –
Brett Pettigrew, Assistant City Attorney

Attachments:

- 1) April 12, 2024 Memorandum from Brett Pettigrew, Assistant City Attorney
 - a. Exhibit A: Excerpts from Current Charter
 - b. Exhibit B: Potential Charter Amendments
 - c. Exhibit C: Three-Year Election Cycle
 - d. Exhibit D: November 2023 Illustration for PS&I
 - e. Exhibit E: March 2024 Illustration for PS&I

General Attachments:

Minutes of the January 25, 2024 Meeting
Pending and Continuing Referral List
Agenda Item Support Material

City of St. Petersburg
Committee of the Whole
January 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes
City Hall, Room 100

Present: Chair Deborah Figgs-Sanders, Vice-Chair Copley Gerdes, Council Members Brandi Gabbard, Ed Montanari, Lisset Hanewicz, John Muhammad, and Richie Floyd

Absent: Council Member Gina Driscoll

Also Present: City Administrator Rob Gerdes, City Attorney Jacqueline Kovilaritch, Assistant City Administrator Tom Greene, Chief Assistant City Attorney Jeanine Williams, Budget Director Elizabeth Makofske, and City Clerk Chan Srinivasa

Support Staff: Kimberly Amos, Legislative Aide

1. **Call to Order** – 2:00 PM
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Vice-Chair Gerdes motioned for approval. All voted in favor.
3. **Approval of December 14, 2023 Minutes** – CM Hanewicz motioned for approval. All voted in favor.
4. **New Business** – January 25, 2024

New Business: FY25 City Council Budget Priorities

Budget and Management Director Liz Makofske began the meeting with an overview of the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) budget process providing important dates, issues anticipated to impact the General Fund, and preliminary budget assumptions. *City Administrator Rob Gerdes* discussed a new concept in which each administration would propose one idea limited to a maximum expenditure of \$1 Million, that the public can vote on, aiming to enhance participation in the budget process.

Council Chair Figgs-Sanders opened the floor to Councilmembers to provide their priorities for Administration's use during the development of FY25 budget. Councilmember Gabbard spoke first followed by Councilmembers Montanari, Hanewicz, Muhammad, Floyd, Vice Chair Gerdes, and Chair Figgs-Sanders. The Councilmembers budget priorities memos are attached for informational purposes.

Attachments:

Councilmember Gabbard FY25 Budget Priorities Memo
Councilmember Montanari FY25 Budget Priorities Memo
Councilmember Hanewicz FY25 Budget Priorities Memo
Councilmember Muhammad FY25 Budget Priorities Memo
Councilmember Floyd FY25 Budget Priorities Memo
Council Vice Chair Gerdes FY25 Budget Priorities Memo
Council Chair Figgs-Sanders FY25 Budget Priorities Memo

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:11 PM



ST. PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL

MEMORANDUM

Office of City Council

TO: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch
FROM: Council Member Brandi Gabbard
SUBJECT: FY 2025 Budget Priorities
DATE: February 2, 2024

Mayor Welch,

As a follow up to the January 25th Committee of the Whole Meeting where Council members presented their individual budget priorities for FY 2025, I am forwarding the following memo. Please consider this to be my official notice of personal budget priorities. As always, I appreciate the opportunity to discuss all matters further in the coming months as the budget draft is being developed. If there are questions, please feel free to have your budget team reach out to set up one on one meetings to review the following items in more detail.

Resiliency:

In preparation and response to the flooding events over the last three years, I have been working with administration and staff on a Resiliency Action Plan that would focus on the neighborhoods most affected by these events.

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council has the ability and the experience to facilitate this action plan and is ready to do this work alongside us. The estimated cost is \$300,000.

Once this Action Plan is complete, it is my opinion that we will need to make a concerted effort to reevaluate our 5-year CIP budget and prioritize stormwater projects according to the results.

In addition, residents are growing increasingly frustrated by the process and the financial difficulties that continue to be barriers to FEMA grant funding for mitigation and hardening of flood prone homes. As the facilitator of these grants, the City has an opportunity to lead the way. We must find creative ways to assist our residents. One way that we can do that is by creating a Flood Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund. This fund would allow residents who have been approved by FEMA for a mitigation grant to apply to the city to draw from the fund, the monies

that they currently need to expend before the grant dollars can be accessed. The average cost to raise a home is around \$250-300K in today's market and while FEMA covers most of this, demo etc. must be started before the grant dollars are received. The initial outlay can be upwards of \$100K and most homeowners are hard pressed to have that money on hand. This limits the number of residents who can be successful in accessing this vital resource. Each year we have more people interested in the program but over the last few years the average number has been around 10-12 residents applying for the program. At an upfront cost of \$50-\$100K, I would like to request that we seed this fund with an initial \$1.5M recognizing that this will replenish as the funds come in from the grant approval and we can reevaluate this program every year to assess the need for additional funding based upon the number of applicants each year.

Lastly, I am requesting that administration do a review of the last four wet weather events where there has been either full or partial emergency management activation and the costs affected with each event. There have been times when these actions have not been reimbursable by federal and or state resources. I believe there will be more of these events, and I am asking that we set aside a contingency fund based upon the results of this review to ensure we have the resources available to respond accordingly without sacrificing other initiatives.

Housing and Neighborhood Services:

- Per the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee Housing Initiatives list, I am requesting the funding needed to create a model ADU program and a marketing initiative which explains to residents the information related to eligibility and how to design and apply for an ADU permit.
- Also, according to the AHAC incentive list, I am requesting additional funding to expand the new Citywide pilot Rebates for Residential Rehabs Program.
- Continued funding for the Employee Assisted Housing program and reevaluation of the program for potential homeownership opportunities as we reach the two-year mark of the program implementation.

Community Enrichment Administration:

- Additional funding based upon CAPI's request for more handicap accessible playground equipment
- Continued funding to implement the entire site plan for the St. Petersburg Youth Farm
- Additional funding for the Corner Food Store Program
- Additional funding for implementation of the Healthy Food Action Plan
- More funding for trees especially in areas of our city where trees were damaged due to flooding or wind events.
- A commitment to ensuring that food forests are an integral part of our neighborhood tree planting program accomplishing both our tree canopy goals as well as our food insecurity initiatives

St Petersburg Fire and Rescue:

- Full Staffing of Engine 1 – last year we prioritized the purchase, but we still need to assign the appropriate staff. Requires 13 new FTEs. Approximate cost of \$1.5 million.
- Truck 9 back in service - Requires 13 new FTEs and new ladder truck. Approximate cost of \$1.5 million plus the apparatus

- Prioritize hiring firefighter/paramedics to make all Engines ALS and place a second FF/PM on each rescue. I would like to have discussions around making every engine in the city ALS every day. This would upgrade approximately 18 Firefighter EMT positions to Firefighter Medics. This is about a \$18,000 increase to each position for an annual impact to our operating budget of \$325,000. It is my understanding that we are currently the only department in the county to not pay for additional FF/Medic staffing above the county minimum.
- Heavy Rescue 4 back in service which requires four to eight new firefighters. Approximate cost increase of up to \$800,000
- Request Pinellas County provide Rescue 2 and the eight FF/PMs needed for staffing
- Follow through on the commitment to complete Station 2 and the training facility both critically important to our overall level of service.

St. Petersburg Police Department:

As the residents of the City continue to benefit from the CALL program, I believe it will be important that we properly fund the program in the coming years and follow through with all promises made when the program was first announced in the summer of 2020. It is my opinion that we need to closely monitor the progress of the program, along with the growth of our city, and plan accordingly.

With this growth, we must look to the future and continue to work toward a goal of a sworn strength of 600 officers. I know that we have made this commitment in recent years but with the increase in retirees and growing concerns around retention we must recruit, retain, and train the best and brightest who truly understand the immense responsibility that comes with wearing a badge. We must make this goal a reality.

Utility Rates:

Allocate the funding needed to implement the findings of the Utility Rate Affordability Analysis that is currently being performed to provide utility assistance for low-income households

Arts and Museums:

- Budget to implement the cultural action plan and to provide community based public art installations in each district throughout the city
- Continued support for the rollover funding to complete the Storm Drain Art Pilot Project in District 2 and add additional funding to extend into at least one other district in FY 25
- Request for Palladium funding to assist with the completion of their multiyear renovation project with \$1M of funding spread throughout FY 25 and FY 26
- Continue to fund the St Petersburg Museum of History and their work to protect and preserve the city archive storage in the amount of \$75,000

Staffing:

I want to conclude with this section because to me the wellbeing of the employees who make up our city's workforce is of the utmost importance. Nothing that is implemented through the departments and programs we fund is possible without them. I am growing increasingly concerned about the workloads that I see our city staff undertaking. We are so blessed to work with incredibly talented people who continuously impress me with their skillset and their ability to juggle numerous tasks at all times. My concern however is that the Historic Gas Plant will be the largest redevelopment project our city will ever see, and it is happening at a time when resiliency and other citywide needs are going to require additional focus. I am requesting that we take a hard look at our staffing in areas such as Housing and Neighborhood Services, Water Resources, Floodplain Management, Permitting, Economic Development/CRA, and as mentioned already Police, and Fire Rescue. It is my hope that we will see a concerted effort to budget adequately over the next 1-5 years to strategically add additional staffing where needed. This will allow us to do more and ensure that every part of our city receives the resources and attention they deserve.

I am excited about the collaboration that I have experienced so far with your administration, and I look forward to the year ahead. I recognize fully that the budget process is complicated, and resources are finite. It is my hope that we can collaborate on issues of shared importance and utilize our budget to continue making St. Petersburg a place that all residents can be proud to call home.

Brandi Gabbard
City Council Member, District 2

Cc: City Administrator Rob Gerdes
Assistant City Administrator Tom Greene
Chief of Staff Doyle Walsh
Budget Director Elizabeth Makofske
City Council
City Attorney Jacqueline Kovilaritch

MEMORANDUM

Office of City Council



TO: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

FROM: Council Member Montanari

SUBJECT: 2025 Budget Priorities

DATE: February 21, 2024

Mayor Welch,

Every year before our budget priorities workshop, I speak with key stakeholders as I formulate my goals for the next fiscal year. As we go through the process of developing the FY2025 budget, I look forward to collaborating with you and your administration to ensure this budget reflects the values of all residents of St. Petersburg. My priorities for FY2025 are listed below:

Fiscal Stewardship

Millage rate reduction. With forecasted increase in ad valorem tax revenue, I propose a millage rate cut of .200 mills which will bring our rate from 6.4675 to 6.2675. I estimate that the lower millage rate will reduce the FY25 tax burden by approximately \$6.116 million.

Economic Stability Fund. I propose an investment of \$1 million to the Economic Stability Fund.

Penny Fund/Sanitary Sewer Annual Pipe CIPP Lining and Annual Pipe Repair and Replacement Program. Continue the shift of the \$9 million of Penny funds used for the Annual Pipe CIPP and Pipe Repair and Replacement Programs back to the Water Resources Capital Projects Fund. The goal is to keep the overall funding for our collection system at the current level, but to free up Penny funds for other capital improvement programs for other departments.

Growth and Development. With the current growth rate and development increases, I recommend planning and supporting all departments with additional staffing and equipment.

Public Safety

St. Petersburg Police Department.

- I would like to ensure that the sworn strength reaches the desired 602 officers, with funding for adequate training and equipment for our officers.
- Funding for a new K-9 Compound Facility
- Fully fund take home vehicles
- Funding for the CAD/RMS System
 - \$480,000 for the current Legacy System
 - \$500,000 for the new system
- Funding for a full-time Victim Advocate position (Currently 4 positions, 2 part-time, 2 grant-funded)
- \$300,000 for Life Scans for Police personnel over the age of 35

St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue

- Funding for a new Fire Training Facility
- Funding to move the Brush Site located next to the planned Fire Training Facility
- Continued funding to build Fire Station #2
- Apparatus Storage Building in the vacant lot at Station 3
- Fully fund the Cadet Program
- Engine 1 personnel
- Begin the planning for a new Master Fire Station and the splitting of Stations 1 and 5 to help cover the development in the Historic Gas Plant District

Community Enrichment

- Funding for renovations/replacement of the Enoch Davis Center
- Funding to address Northshore Beach erosion
- Funding for renovation/replacement of the Sunshine Center
- Funding for the restoration of Vinoy Park

Public Works

Stormwater and Flooding. I recommend funding to identify specific projects to alleviate flooding in repetitive loss areas. I also recommend continued funding to update city infrastructure in these neighborhoods, specifically in Shore Acres and Snell Isle:

- Connecticut Ave and Vicinity Flood Project
- Replace/upgrade backflow preventers
 - Currently identified 16 in Shore Acres to replace
 - Fund the 2 additional backflow preventers in the Venetian Bridge project
 - Assess the remainder of the 54 backflow preventers for replacement
- Denver Street Flooding Improvements - \$5.7 million
- Arizona Avenue Flooding Improvements - \$9 million
- Funding for tidal gates at Butterfly Lake and the Mini-Park
- Consider funding for a Shore Acres Action Plan
- Appian Way Drainage Project
- Funding for 2 additional Stormwater maintenance crews to increase cleaning of drains, vaults and backflow preventers

Additional capital and operation requests from the Shore Acres Civic Association following the January 31st Shore Acres meeting are attached for consideration.

Street and Roadway Improvements. I recommend an increase in the CIP Street and Roadway Improvements budget by \$2 million bringing it to a total of \$7.4 million. Over the next 5 years, I support yearly increases to our roadway improvements to bring us up to our goal of \$18 million per fiscal year. I would like to specifically focus on continued funding for the reconstruction of 62nd Avenue North and funding to repave 47th Avenue NE.

Bridges and Seawalls. With 81 bridges in our City, I recommend additional funding for the Bridge Extension Program and the Bridge Replacement Program. Additionally, there are several seawalls that need repairs or replacement, specifically the 31st Terrace seawall.

City Development Administration

Marina. I recommend immediate action and funding for the redevelopment of our Municipal Marina.

Port. I propose a funding match for the conceptual planning phase at the Port.

Docks. I recommend \$2.5 million for a permanent dock for the CrossBay Ferry and that can also accommodate the Tall Ship Lynx.

Albert Whitted Airport. I recommend continued acceptance of FAA and FDOT grants to fund Airport capital projects per City Council Resolution 2022-469 that was passed on September 15, 2022.

Transportation & Parking Management

With the upcoming Sidewalk Master Plan, there are several areas in which funding needs to be expanded for capital improvements from last fiscal year's budget:

- Sidewalk Expansion Program, currently at \$350,000, recommend \$1 million to help implement projects identified in the Master Plan
- Sidewalks-Neighborhood & ADA Ramps, currently at \$350,000, recommended \$450,000
- Signal Mast Arms, recommended \$750,000

Additionally, I would like to continue to fund any gaps for the Safe Routes to School North Shore Elementary Sidewalk Project as it moves from the design phase to construction.

Business

It is essential to support our businesses here in St. Petersburg. Therefore, I would like to continue to fund and support the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce, the Economic Development Corporation, the Downtown Partnership and the Innovation District. With the newly formed Economic and Workforce Development Committee, I would like to prioritize the creation of office space in our City.

District 3 Neighborhoods

- Funding for the development of neighborhood plans
- Adequate funding for lake maintenance (including necessary equipment)

Arts and Culture

- Fund and support the St. Petersburg Arts Alliance
- Fund and support the Arts Conservatory for Teens
- \$2 million to go towards necessary upgrades and repairs at the Mahaffey Theater
- Support The Palladium's capital campaign for their new sound system and upgrades
- \$100,000 additional funding for the study of the downtown area around the Dali Museum, Mahaffey Theater, Grand Prix and Al Lang Field.

City Council

- Increase Budget for Management Evaluations
- Increase City Council Travel Budget
- Funding for furniture in City Council Office
- Funding for speaker system for quasi-judicial hearings

Miscellaneous

- Speer YMCA \$1 million.
- Funding for Clam Bayou programs
- Increase budget for Legal for retention and recruitment of City Attorneys
- Print Shop – more capital funding
- Funding to plant an additional 1,000 shade trees

Although the process will lead us well into the year, we must look to balance the past, present, and future needs for our city. I know that you will be as dedicated as I am to maintaining fiscal responsibility, while providing excellence for those we serve. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me to discuss any of the above-mentioned priorities.

Ed Montanari
Council Member, District 3

Attachments:

Shore Acres Civic Association Flood Letter
City Council Resolution 2022-469

Cc: City Administrator Rob Gerdes
Assistant City Administrator Tom Greene
Budget Director Elizabeth Makofske
City Council
City Attorney Jacqueline Kovilaritch



Shore Acres Civic Association

February 21, 2024

Honorable Mayor Ken Welch

(ken.welch@stpete.org)

Councilman Ed Montanari

(ed.montanari@stpete.org)

Shore Acres Flooding

On behalf of our residents, the Shore Acres Civic Association (SACA) thanks Mayor Ken Welch, City Stormwater Management Officials and Councilman Ed Montanari for the thorough presentation of historic and current flood challenges our community faces on January 31, 2024 and subsequent presentation and “listening session” on February 13, 2024. SACA looks forward to continuing an open and honest dialogue with the City of St. Petersburg to work toward real solutions. It is clear that current measures to stem flood issues, both tidal (sunny day) and surge, are not working. Using the analogy that SACA Board member Elijah Ramsey suggested in planning a way forward: we need some band-aids, stitches and eventually surgery.

Band-aid solutions would be interventions that could be implemented within the coming months, do not need a great deal of planning, and are limited in scope and cost. Suggestions include:

- Repair/replace the failed backflow preventer systems.
- Assess whether additional backflow preventers need to be added to other outflows.
- Compile and map “SeeClickFix” flood reporting since 2018.
- Use FEMA and NFIP “Repetitive Loss” data to map areas at highest risk of flooding.
- Identify locations for emergency pumping stations to be deployed when storm conditions threaten. This appeared to be effective during the January 2024 flood threat.
- Identify permanent locations for pumps to assist the backflow preventer system during high tide (sunny day flooding).
- Expedite permitting for flood mitigation efforts, including raising a home and waterproofing.

Stiches represent items that could be started in the near term but would likely need more time to see results and/or suggestions that would need broader approvals or investments. These include:

- Add an additional Stormwater Maintenance Team to 4 to fully inspect, clean and repair the current stormwater management system in Shore Acres.
- Add permanent pumping stations.
- Add a sensing system that can alert when a backflow preventer is being impeded to assist workers to more easily locate and identify problems.
- Revisit ALL previous studies to determine if they are still viable solutions.

Surgery items, or things that will take more study, time and resources to implement, SACA would like to see consideration of the following ideas:

- Create a grant program or other financial mechanism to help homeowners pay for flood mitigation efforts using City, County, State and/or Federal resources and assistance. One example is a grant or forgivable loan to assist homeowners to raise their home. A portion of that money would be forgiven each year that the property is homesteaded by the homeowner or paid back to the City on a prorated basis if the property is sold.
- Create a program that provides a free flood mitigation home inspection to help homeowners identify areas that could be waterproofed to prevent minor flooding.
- Assist homeowners with waterproofing the existing home by providing access to flood mitigation items such as temporary dams, flood bladders, and similar items.
- Create new rules that consider flood mitigation within the building code.
- Create reasonable guidelines and permitting solutions for homeowners who are mitigating flood damage.
- Raise roads within Shore Acres
- Work with County, State and Federal entities to design and build a system that prevents Storm Surge flooding in the future.

In closing, we urge that swift visible actions, prior to the start of Hurricane Season on June 1st, would go a long way toward gaining the trust and confidence of our residents. Our neighbors understand that “fixing” the flood issues are complex overall, but the goal of reducing or eliminating tidal “sunny day” flooding prior to June 1, is attainable. SACA looks forward to a productive, results driven relationship with our Councilman Ed Montanari, Mayor Ken Welch and the City of St. Petersburg.

Sincerely,



Kevin Batdorf
SACA President

On behalf of the Shore Acres Civic Association Board of Directors

Attachments: Mike Higgins 2 pages

cc: Tricia Terry (tricia.terry@stpete.org)
Doyle Walsh (doyle.walsh@stpete.org)

**Provided by:
Mike Higgins**

Backflow Preventers

History

- First iteration was metal flappers at end of outflow pipes
- Latest iteration are bladder style installed in pipes

Problems due to preventer leakage

- Saltwater into streets at high tides with or without small surge
- Street damage due to water softening road base causing potholes
- Saltwater damage to vehicles
- Saltwater pushed onto vegetation and into homes due to vehicle wakes
- Road blockage for entry/exit

Problems with existing preventers

- Any growth or debris prevents sealing
- All saltwater systems are prone to barnacle/oyster/miscellaneous growth
- Leakage permits growth within the drainage pipes
- Leakage permits debris to be flushed in from bay
- Flushing and cleaning of growth and debris is difficult and expensive
- Replacing of preventers is a short term fix that are easily compromised
- Slow drainage after event
- On extreme surge over the seawall, requires about a foot surge drop below the seawall to open the preventer

Suggested new preventer parameters

- Positive powered shut off valve
- Power provided by battery with solar charging
- Communication to and control by central computer provided by cellular or WIFI
- Located as near to outflow as possible to keep only freshwater in piping
- Sensors to determine street stormwater versus bay level
- Sensors to provide feedback on valve position
- Valves to be kept in closed mode unless required to release stormwater

**Provided by:
Mike Higgins
Cost Benefits of Redesign**

Backflow Preventer Deficiencies

Present devices put city maintenance in position to react to leakage/failures since they are only monitored by voters reporting flooding issues.

Easily compromised with biological growth.

Requires about a foot of head to open which slows the drainage as tide/surge recedes.

Location allows saltwater biologicals to grow.

Requires repetitive maintenance checks and cleaning.

Use of new technology for Redesign

Communication over wireless systems is easily adapted to a well-designed device.

Battery with solar cell charging is now common.

Inexpensive materials can be used that resist UV and are strong enough for the expected low heads.

Can be a self-contained unit that can be sited without external power.

Can communicate with a central computer for valve position fully closed or open.

Can be opened or closed based on water level and potential events.

Can be kept in closed position until storm water dictates need to open.

Benefits

These are proactive devices that maintenance personnel will know if they are not fully closed or open and can schedule to repair/clear issues.

Reduction of street flooding will

1. Reduce maintenance of potholes.
2. Save vehicle saltwater damage.
3. Allow better entry/exit of Shore Acres.
4. Alleviate necessary police presence to stop traffic and allow for better patrol.
5. Prevent home flooding due to wakes.
6. Allow for faster drainage when bay is below storm water level.
7. Storm water system maintenance is only done where needed.

2022-469

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE ADMINISTRATION RESUME FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) AND FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR THE ALBERT WHITTED AIRPORT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Albert Whitted Airport has been in operation for 93 years; and

WHEREAS, the Albert Whitted Airport staff has identified nine unfunded FY23-FY27 Preliminary 4033 Airport Capital Projects to ensure the continued quality of airport operations; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. Petersburg has maintained and improved the airport through grants from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); and

WHEREAS, the grants from FDOT and FAA would account for 78.1 percent of the funding for these nine unfunded FY23-FY27 Preliminary 4033 Airport Capital Projects.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida, that this Council requests that the Administration resume FDOT and FAA grant applications for the Albert Whitted Airport.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted at a regular session of the City Council held on the 15th day of September 2022.



Gina Driscoll, Chair-Councilmember
Presiding Officer of the City Council

ATTEST:



Chan Srinivasa, City Clerk



MEMORANDUM

Office of City Council



TO: Mayor Ken Welch

FROM: Council Member Lisset Hanewicz

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Priorities

DATE: January 25, 2024

Mayor Welch,

Today, my colleagues and I announced our individual budget priorities for Fiscal Year 2025. This memorandum will formalize my priorities while providing details and rationale for each. My priorities, many of which are shared by my fellow City Council Members, are divided into the following categories: Traffic Safety Improvements, Public Safety, Public Works, Affordable and Workforce Housing, Teen Programs, Parks and Recreation Improvements, Urban Forestry, Economic Stability, and Arts and Culture. I am confident these priorities can be elevated and achieved through collaboration with you and your Administration.

1. Traffic Safety Improvements

a. Complete Streets

- i. **Goal:** Increase funding for Complete Streets in FY 25 through General and Citywide Capital Improvement funding.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$1.07 million total in FY 24. \$400,000 from the Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027) and \$675,000 Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
- iii. **Budget Locations:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027) and Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
- iv. **Rationale:** Complete Streets implementation is vital to our community's safety; a safe, efficient, and inclusive transportation network is inextricably linked to the quality of life and upward mobility. Pedestrian fatalities are far too frequent in the City and Pinellas County. With construction costs continuing to rise, a meaningful increase to the Complete Streets budget is necessary to stay on track with our goals for safer streets.

b. Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements

- i. **Goal:** Maintain necessary funding for the various projects and grant funding associated with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements program in FY 25, specifically, the North Shore Elementary Sidewalks project.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$2.8 million in FY 24.

- iii. **Budget Location:** General Capital Improvement Fund (3001), Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements (Grant Fund) (3004), and Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
 - iv. **Rationale:** The projects in this category seek to create an interconnected network of safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle options. Projects are sometimes supplemented by grant funding.
- c. **School Zone Upgrades and Safety Improvements**
 - i. **Goal:** Maintain funding in FY 25 to provide the upgrades and safety improvements for the project.
 - ii. **Appropriation History:** \$600,000 in FY 24.
 - iii. **Budget Location:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
 - iv. **Rationale:** This project provides funding to upgrade school zone traffic and pedestrian safety measures.
- d. **Traffic Safety Program**
 - i. **Goal:** Maintain necessary funding in FY 25 to address traffic safety concerns citywide. Specific request includes increased funding for new traffic signals/mast arm conversions.
 - ii. **Appropriation History:** \$125,000 in FY 24.
 - iii. **Budget Location:** Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
 - iv. **Rationale:** This program supports and funds improvements identified by a citywide review and analysis of various countermeasures to address traffic safety concerns. Priority locations have been identified in neighborhood traffic planning, bicycle and pedestrian planning, and city safety planning activities.
- e. **Neighborhood Sidewalks and ADA Ramps**
 - i. **Goal:** Maintain funding at \$350,000 or more in FY 25.
 - ii. **Appropriation History:** \$350,000 in FY 24.
 - iii. **Budget Locations:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
 - iv. **Rationale:** This project provides funding for the Administration, design, inspection, and construction of approximately 4,200 linear feet of new five-foot-wide sidewalks and ADA ramps in neighborhoods that their respective associations have approved.
- f. **Sidewalks (Reconstruction)**
 - i. **Goal:** Increase funding in FY 25.
 - ii. **Appropriation History:** \$1.3 million in FY 24.
 - iii. **Budget Locations:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).
 - iv. **Rationale:** This funding provides for reconstructing approximately 12,000 linear feet of five-foot-wide sidewalks identified as noncompliant with current standards.
- g. **Sidewalks (Expansion)**
 - i. **Goal:** Increase funding in FY 25, achieved through a mixture of CIP and Multimodal Impact Fees.
 - ii. **Appropriation History:** \$400,000 total in FY 24, with \$350,000 from the Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027) and \$50,000 from the Multimodal Impact Fees (3071).
 - iii. **Budget Locations:** Appropriations for new sidewalks generally come from the Multimodal Impact Fees (3071) and the Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027).

- iv. **Rationale:** This funding provides for designing and constructing new sidewalks in the City. The Sidewalk Master Plan will be completed later this year and will identify specific needs for expanding our sidewalk system. Additional funding is needed in FY 25 in order to implement swift and measurable improvements.

2. Public Safety

a. Public Safety Training Facilities: Police K-9 Training and Fire Training

- i. **Goal:** Maintain the planned \$1.12 million in FY 25.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$1.18 million in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** Public Safety Capital Improvement Fund (3025)
- iv. **Rationale:** This project provides funding for the design and pre-construction services for the replacement of the existing Fire Rescue Training and Police K-9 compound at Lake Maggiore Park with a new combined facility to include a multipurpose shared classroom, logistics building, fire and rescue training grounds, a climate-controlled kennel, vehicle parking, and other necessary support facilities.

b. St. Petersburg Police Department (SPPD)

- i. **Goal:** Maintain SPPD's sworn strength personnel, ensure PD has the appropriate resources to improve roadway safety and maintain funding for take-home vehicles.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$147.5 million in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Public Safety.
- iv. **Rationale:** Maintain funding for personnel and resources to ensure residents receive a level of service consistent with the City's growth.

c. St. Petersburg Fire Rescue (SPFR)

- i. **Goals:** Adequate funding in FY 25 to ensure SPFR has the support and resources needed to meet the demands of our growing City. Specific requests include:
 - 1. Support for Engine 1 personnel costs as needed.
 - 2. Funding to support placing Truck 9 back in service.
 - 3. Funding to support placing Heavy Rescue 4 back in service.
 - 4. Leverage a partnership with the County to fund Rescue 2.
 - 5. Funding for a reserve apparatus facility adjacent to Station 3.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** Total appropriation of \$65.7 million in FY 24. \$44.1 million from the General Fund (operating), \$21.6 million from the Emergency Medical Services Fund, and \$2.25 million from Public Safety Capital Improvement (Penny).
- iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund (0001), Emergency Medical Services Fund (1009), and Public Safety Capital Improvement Fund (3025).
- iv. **Rationale:** Many of the goals mentioned above reflect the need to increase SPFR's level of service and response times due to the City's growth.

3. Public Works

a. Street and Road Improvements – Paving (Roads and Alleys)

- i. **Goal:** Increase funding to \$6.5 million or more in FY 25.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$5.4 million in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027)
- iv. **Rationale:** This funding is for reconstructing segments of paved roadways to complete at least 110 lane miles per year. An aggressive funding increase is needed to keep up with the rising costs of labor, materials, and maintenance.

b. **Water Resources**

i. **Water Resources Operating Fund**

1. **Goal:** Increase funding levels in FY 25, keeping in mind the increasing cost of materials and labor.
2. **Appropriation History:** \$201.1 million in FY 24.
3. **Budget Location:** Water Resources Operating Fund (4001).
4. **Rationale:** Increase funding levels to support the capacity and reliability of the City's water, wastewater, and reclaimed water systems. Continue to follow the recommendations of the Master Water Plan, as well as support transfers to the Capital Projects Fund to maintain the 50/50 cash-to-debt funding ratio.

ii. **Water Resources Capital Improvement Fund**

1. **Goal:** Increase funding levels in FY 25, keeping in mind the increasing cost of materials and labor. Specific emphasis on Water Distribution System Improvement projects (estimated \$14.2 million needed in FY 25).
2. **Appropriation History:** \$81.5 million in FY 24.
3. **Budget Location:** Water Resources Capital Projects Fund (4003).
4. **Rationale:** Maintain funding to support water, wastewater, and reclaimed system improvements.

c. **Stormwater**

i. **Stormwater Utility Operating**

1. **Goal:** Increase funding levels in FY 25, specifically emphasizing maintaining or increasing transfers for debt payments and capital projects.
2. **Appropriation History:** \$33.9 million in FY 24. Transfers from Operating to Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund totaled about \$8.02 million, estimated to be a 50/50 cash-to-debt funding ratio of the capital program. Transfers to Stormwater Debt Fund totaled about \$3.4 million.
3. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Utility Operating Fund (4011).
4. **Rationale:** Stormwater revenue (like all City enterprise funds) is derived almost exclusively from stormwater fees. Responsible stormwater rates and strategic investments significantly impact the City's ability to cover stormwater's operational expenses while maintaining the necessary annual transfers to capital projects and debt service funds.

ii. **Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects**

1. **Goal:** Increase funding levels in FY 25, keeping in mind the increasing cost of materials and labor.
2. **Appropriation History:** \$16.8 million in FY 24.
3. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
4. **Rationale:** Increase funding levels to ensure the City has the resources needed to replace and upgrade critical stormwater infrastructure, especially as the Stormwater Master Plan nears completion.

iii. **Stormwater System Resiliency Enhancements**

1. **Goal:** Consider increasing funding to \$1 million in FY 25 rather than the planned amount of \$500,000.

2. **Appropriation History:** \$500,000 in FY 24. Currently, there is a total of \$3.2 million budgeted in the five-year plan; \$500,000 in FY 24 and FY 25, \$200,000 in FY 26, and \$1 million in FY 27 and FY 28.
3. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
4. **Rationale:** This project provides funding for implementing resiliency strategies within the city limits as identified in the recently completed Basin C analysis, Shore Acres resiliency study, the integrated master plan, and other pertinent resiliency studies. These studies identified various projects that will help mitigate common flooding concerns.

d. **Lake Management and Water Quality**

- i. **Goals:** Increase funding in FY 25 to support maintenance activities on City lakes to protect and enhance water quality.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** Approximately \$300,000 in FY 24 from the Stormwater Operating Fund (4011) and \$500,000 from the Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
- iii. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Operating Fund (4011) and Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
- iv. **Rationale:** To address the extreme environmental stress on our lakes from various sources, including but not limited to contaminants, invasive species, and nutrient loading. Promote the City's environmental stewardship of its lakes, stormwater infrastructure, and water quality.

e. **Crescent Lake Water Quality Improvements Project**

- i. **Goal:** Increase to \$600,000 in FY 25 to keep with the plan to allocate \$2.4 million over five years.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$500,000 in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** Stormwater Drainage Capital Projects Fund (4013).
- iv. **Rationale:** To support the ongoing maintenance associated with the Crescent Lake Management Plan.

4. **Sanitation**

a. **Sanitation Operating Fund**

- i. **Goal:** Provide the funding necessary for the Sanitation Department to implement a new routing and optimization software.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** N/A.
- iii. **Budget Location:** Sanitation Operating Fund (4021)
- iv. **Rationale:** The Sanitation Department would benefit significantly from a cloud-based and real-time routing software that improves efficiency internally and provides a higher level of service externally.

5. **Affordable and Workforce Housing**

a. **Housing Capital Improvements Fund**

- i. **Goal:** Maintain funding at \$750,000 in FY 25.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$750,000 in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** Housing Capital Improvements Fund (3000).
- iv. **Rationale:** This funding source aids with affordable and workforce housing programs and serves as the credit line for the repayments of economic stability fund loans. The fund also supplements State or Federal funding when needed.

b. **Affordable Housing Land Acquisitions**

- i. **Goal:** \$1.75 million in FY 25, with the five-year CIP plan of \$8.75 million from Penny for Pinellas funding.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$1.75 million in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** Citywide Infrastructure Capital Improvement Fund (3027)
- iv. **Rationale:** This funding source provides land acquisition or an agreement with a special district that owns the land for affordable residential housing (City Council Res. 2018-385).

6. **Planning and Development**

- i. **Goal:** Provide necessary funding to procure consulting services for a Pinellas Trail Special Area Plan
- ii. **Appropriation History:** N/A.
- iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Planning and Development Services.
- iv. **Rationale:** Funding is required to engage a consultant to assist with preparing a Special Area Plan for the Pinellas Trail in order to advance a TEC-Local designation to allow alternative uses and trail-supportive development standards.

7. **Community Enrichment**

a. **Teen Programs**

- i. **Goal:** Increase department funding in FY 25 and leverage grant funding opportunities. Continue to support programming at TASC0, Workforce Readiness Programs, literacy/STEM, and mentoring programs while intentionally engaging the underrepresented Hispanic community.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** Approximately \$6.37 million total towards teen and youth programs in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Community Enrichment Administration, Parks and Recreation, and Neighborhood Relations.
- iv. **Rationale:** Programs targeted towards teens—grades 9-12, specifically—provide immeasurable benefits to teens and the community. Teen programs, such as those offered by TASC0, give teens the skills they need to succeed in life and as they enter the workforce.

b. **Urban Forestry**

- i. **Goal:** Increase funding for tree programs, including the Mini-Grant Tree Program, which provides trees to neighborhoods, businesses, and organizations interested in increasing our urban tree canopy.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$100,000 in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Neighborhood Relations.
- iv. **Rationale:** Tree programs are an excellent way for the City to protect and grow its urban canopy while involving neighbors and business owners who care about improving and beautifying their surroundings.

c. **Parks and Recreation - Facility Maintenance**

- i. **Goal:** Increase the Parks and Recreation Department funding for facility maintenance needs and necessary repairs and renovations.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$625,691 in FY 24 for facility repairs and maintenance.
- iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, Parks and Recreation.
- iv. **Rationale:** Increased funding is needed to address aging infrastructure and cover any gaps due to the prior rebalancing of Penny for Pinellas resources.

d. **Vinoy Park Improvement Project**

- i. **Goal:** Provide the necessary funding to support the recommended improvements described in the study completed by AECOM and additional reports if needed.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** N/A.
- iii. **Budget Location:** N/A.
- iv. **Rationale:** Vinoy Park is essential to the waterfront park system, and the City recently commissioned an inventory analysis and needs assessment to help guide decisions for future improvements at the park. Infrastructure improvements at Vinoy Park were also noted as a priority in the 2022 Downtown Waterfront Master Plan.

8. **Economic Stability**

a. **Economic Stability Fund**

- i. **Goal:** \$1 million transfer to the fund in FY 25.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** Total contribution of \$750,000 in FY 24. \$500,000 in the adopted budget and an additional \$250,000 transferred during the budget clean-up process.
- iii. **Budget Location:** Economic Stability Fund (0008).
- iv. **Rationale:** The Economic Stability Fund's newly embraced role as an interfund loan source to aid in the City's affordable housing goals only highlights the need to replenish the stability fund.

9. **Arts and Culture**

a. **The Palladium**

- i. **Goal:** City pledge of \$1 million (\$250,000 per fiscal year beginning in FY 25) to support the Palladium's capital campaign for renovations.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** N/A
- iii. **Budget Location:** It is the Administration's discretion where to pull these community support allocations.
- iv. **Rationale:** In October 2023, the Palladium launched its capital campaign to raise \$10 million to renovate the historic church building into a state-of-the-art performing arts center. City support would help to fund the building renovation, including newly configured staging, new seating, and production/sound reinforcement. This funding arrangement mirrors the City's previous support of the Museum of History's capital campaign, wherein the City pledged \$1 million over four \$250,000 installments.

b. **St. Petersburg Museum of History**

- i. **Goal:** \$75,000 in FY 25 to continue to support the Museum's archival and collections effort.
- ii. **Appropriation History:** \$87,000 in FY 24.
- iii. **Budget Location:** General Fund, City Development Administration (Community Support Allocations).
- iv. **Rationale:** Continued support of the Museum of History's archival efforts will provide the proper care for its priceless collection. The current funding arrangement has laid the groundwork for permanently protecting the City's historical archives and collections in line with industry standards. The funding also goes towards digitizing documents, photographs, and maps dating back to the original settlers of the lower Pinellas peninsula, allowing the Museum of History to share the City's rich history online with a press of a button.

I look forward to working with you and your Administration to implement these and other shared priorities. As noted at the meeting, I am eager to see the results of the gender pay study commissioned in 2022. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss these priorities in greater detail.

Sincerely,



Lisset Hanewicz
Council Member, District 4

cc: Rob Gerdes, City Administrator
Tom Greene, Assistant City Administrator
Doyle Walsh, Chief of Staff
Liz Makofske, Budget & Management Director
Cindy Sheppard, City Council Administrative Officer
Jayne Ohlman, Senior Legislative Aide
Members of the City Council



ST. PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL

March 18, 2024

Mayor Welch,

The following list of recommendations are informed by the insights gathered from the feedback from over 300 residents who actively participated in our District 7 surveys and / or engaged in our Town Hall Meetings; that were held last year. During those meetings we discussed Resident and Stakeholder Priorities.

The input gathered represents our commitment to building a stronger, more vibrant community, with a focus on inclusivity, equity, and the overall well-being of the Residents of District 7 and the City as a whole.

Taking our cues from the Administration we tried to put these recommendations into Five Pillars of Progress that have been outlined in the opening of each Budget Presentation:

Namely

- a. Housing Opportunities for All,
- b. Environment, Infrastructure, and Resilience,
- c. Equitable Arts, Development & Business Opportunities,
- d. Education & Youth Opportunities, and
- e. Neighborhood Health & Safety.

As we review our list, I believe it is important to recognize the collaborative spirit that underlies this effort and our commitment to elevating the voices of those are and will be directly impacted by the decisions we make.

I would like to publicly thank those who have actively engaged in this process and gave us feedback.

ALSO NOTE: Happy to hear about the exploration of the Participatory Budgeting Process. In 2015/2016 we were advocating for a % of the Budget not, a set amount; however, we are pleased to see this as something that is seriously being considered.

Housing Opportunities for All

1. In addition to the Heir Property and Probate Program itself, we would like to have funds allocated for educational workshops on acquiring deeds, navigating probate, and ways to access first-time homebuyer (and other) funds that are available to help Residents.
2. Increase Investments in programs that assist with addressing codes violations and providing housing rehab assistance.
3. Create and fund a program to support 20 (low to moderate income) homeowners with subsidies, loan access, and technical assistance to build ADU's on their properties (City Wide- not just in the CRA.)
4. Funding for a Social Housing Pilot
5. During a recent conversation we had consensus around the idea of using \$287 million to pre-purchase 600 workforce houses for \$400k each and offer them City Employees, teachers and first responders at 0% interest which equals \$1,100 a month mortgages.

Environment, Infrastructure, and Resilience:

1. Land Use Study for Industrial Corridor along 5th Ave S and 9th Ave S from 34th & 49th Streets to determine alternate uses and impact on citizens' health and wellbeing, including mitigation and elimination of hazards.
2. Provide Funding for Basic Improvement Projects outlined in the Joint Action Plan (WADA/Deuces Joint Action Plan).
3. Fund Street Scape Improvements on 22nd Street South in accordance with the WADA Deuces Joint action Plan.
4. Sidewalks and Roads (Complete Streets)
5. Childs Park and Lake Maggiore Improvements

Equitable Arts, Development & Business Opportunities:

1. Fund or partially fund (with assistance from Gulfport) an Executive Director Position for the newly formed "Fusion 49th Street South Business District."
2. Provide Funding that would support a feasibility study for the One Community Grocery Co-Op when they reach that stage of their development (which should be happening in this Fiscal Year)
3. Work with St. Pete College to re-purpose and / or open the Jordan Park Gym and create space for Community Youth and Family Enrichment Activities.
 - a. *This space could also include a Tech Biz Center - to house incubator or co-working space as well as space for programs that build the tech talent supply chain of workers for local jobs in tech related fields.*
4. Increase funding for **Citywide** MLK Day Marketing and Celebrations that includes, "Welcome to St. Pete / MLK Celebration" banners, billboards and other materials.
5. Funding & Support for Annual Juneteenth Celebrations.
6. Investment in Performing Arts Facilities outside of downtown. This could include support for the City Theatre's Youth Intensive Theatre Workshops, Teen Program and Apprentice Program.

Education & Youth Opportunities

1. Provide Childcare Funding for Student Parents (as outlined in the ISAP)
2. Provide Funding for Clam Bayou Marine Education Programming & replace the dock.
3. Funding for a roller skating rink, with Pizza café, arcade game area and Youth Event Space (similar to what was in the proposal that was submitted by United Skates of America for Tangerine Plaza a few years ago) - This would create 20 to 25 part and full time jobs and provide "something" for Youth to do.
4. I support funding for apprenticeship programs, skilled training, and transferable skills initiatives (Like the Future Ready / St. Pete Career Academy).
5. Expansion of Youth & Adult Programs that focus on conducting Home Repairs, Housing Renovations & Construction (in addition to) the Tiny Homes Program which is only putting out 30 Students per year. I would like to see us support programs like AMIKids Pre Apprenticeship Program for those who are 16 to 24 and may be interested in a career in Construction.
6. Promote and increase utilization of Admin Policy #010608 that allows employees to use one hour of paid time per week to mentor students during their normally scheduled working hours. (Lunch Pals, 5k Role Models and others could really use the support.)
 - o *The funding request would include funds for a Quarterly or Annual Event to recognize and reward employees who participate in the program.*

Neighborhood Health & Safety: Public Safety

1. I support the funding recommendations and priorities for the St. Petersburg Association of Fire Fighters Local 747.
2. Allocate funds for increased police residency incentives to encourage officers to live in the City.
3. Support Neighborhood Association Organizational Development and Capacity Building with funds that can be used to help them incorporate, obtain 501c3 and other Structural / Organizational needs that will allow them to build capacity.
4. Allocate additional resources for strengthening community connections and fostering collaboration through community events; We can start with an to increase the annual amount of the Mayor's Neighborhood Mini Grants; because \$500 does go as far as it used to.
5. Allocate funds for the creation of notice boards and suggestion boxes at recreational centers and other City Service Facilities to gather residents' opinions, views, and feedback on City Programs, Projects & Initiatives. This would allow for ongoing information gathering and collaborative efforts to review concerns and find solutions; One suggestion was "satisfaction survey's" that are given after interactions with the City for services.
6. Funding for the Childs Park Neighborhood's Youth Rising / Fund our Families Initiative.
7. Allocate resources to help address the transportation issues for elementary school students are too close to the school to catch a bus but too far to walk safely (an issue at Fairmount Park Elementary).

****Community Enrichment:****

1. Funding for the full site plan for St. Pete Youth Farm.
2. We also would like to reaffirm our support for prioritizing decreases to utility rates over cuts to the millage rate.

Sincerely,

John Muhammad

City Council Member
District 7



ST. PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL

February 22, 2024

Mayor Welch,

Thank you for considering City Council's recommendations for the FY2025 budget. Below is a list of my top priorities for the coming year.

- Funding for expansion and creation of city-owned mixed income (social) housing.
- Continued funding for legal aid for eviction diversion, particularly funding for program marketing.
- Funding to hire a housing and employment investigator for our city that works with the Pinellas County Office of Human Rights.
- Funding to market the housing discrimination and wage theft services in the Pinellas County Office of Human Rights.
- Funding to resurface 110 lane miles, the required amount to maintain our roadways.
- Funding for an election campaign donation matching program.
- Money to fully fund utility assistance needs discovered through this year's analysis.
- Utility rate decreases prioritized over millage rate decreases.

Sincerely,

Richie Floyd
City Council Member, District 8

cc:
City Administrator Robert Gerdes
Chief of Staff Doyle Walsh
Assistant City Administrator Tom Greene

MEMORANDUM

Office of City Council



TO: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch

FROM: Council Member Copley Gerdes

SUBJECT: FY2025 Budget Priorities

DATE: March 26, 2024

Mayor Welch,

At the beginning of the year, the City Council held a Committee of the Whole meeting to express each council member's budget priorities. City Administration and staff accumulate those priorities together with the priorities of every department in the city. Those budget priorities are calculated and weighed through a lengthy process, a process that has impressed me each year. I thank you for your partnership as we work through the FY25 budget. As a follow-up to the City Council Budget Priorities Committee of the Whole meeting, I am submitting for your consideration the budget priorities that I believe are essential for the well-being and prosperity of our city. As our city continues to grow, so do our needs. With that being said, my budget priorities are as follows:

Public Safety

St. Petersburg Police Department

One of the main components of city government is safety. I thank you for your continued support in funding our police department and its much-needed resources. I appreciate your consideration of the following:

- Continued support of the Take Home program
- Continued funding for the CAD RMS system
- Fully funding of the proposed K9 training facility
- Additional funding for school zone safety measures

St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue

St. Pete Fire and Rescue is currently searching for its next Chief to lead our men and women into the next SPFR chapter. SPFR has expressed its gratitude for the funding of Fire Station 2 and is pleased to have Engine 1 back in service. For SPFR my priority requests are:

- Truck 9 and necessary staff placed in service on the west side of St. Petersburg to ensure District 1 is adequately staffed for the public's safety
- Explore applying for a SAFER Grant as a possible funding source to staff Truck 9
- Hire additional firefighter/paramedics to make all Engines ALS and place a second firefighter/paramedic on every Rescue truck
- Seek County funding for Rescue 2. Fire Station 2 is the only station in the area without County funding for a Rescue

Housing and Neighborhood Services

With the hopeful approval of the redevelopment of the Historic Gas Plant, we will have big goals ahead of us. With those goals, I would request:

- Hiring additional staff in the Housing Department and increase our non-grant funded positions.
- Continued funding of the City's Housing Plan with a focus on 80% AMI and below, using City-owned land and public/private partnerships to intentionally increase housing stock for our citizens who need it the most.
- Continuation of programs and matching grants that help our neighborhoods thrive.
- Add an additional position to our Homeless Outreach team

Community Enrichment

I want to thank you for the much-needed West Central Redevelopment Project. This section of Central Avenue has long needed attention. As the project progresses the aesthetics and added safety measures are looking great. Your continued support in the following areas would be greatly appreciated.

- Increased funding for CIP and operations and management
- Funding the rehab and revisioning of the Enoch Davis Center
- Investigate options from our Park Mobile Program to help track open accessible parking for our residents with mobility challenges

Parks and Recreation

The City of St. Petersburg is one of the top recreation destinations in the United States, with all it has to offer through our parks, beaches, recreational facilities, and much more. I respectfully request support of the following:

- One accidental child drowning is one too many. Therefore, I would like to see fully funded swim lessons for **every** child in St. Petersburg.
- Funding of the CIP timeline to create a healthy and long-lasting Vinoy Park

- Explore funding options through the Tourist Development Council and the State of Florida for the renourishment of North Shore Beach
- Funding for the continuation of existing programs and the creation of new educational programs at Clam Bayou

Arts

St. Petersburg is also known as an Arts destination. I would like to continue the growth of this reputation by:

- Increasing our Grant program for artists from \$500,000 to \$600,000.
- Full support of the funding for the Palladium project

Public Works

Our city roads and sidewalks need attention, and I am in full support of:

- Funding the Sidewalk Master Plan
- Increasing funding for street resurfacing
- Continue to explore innovative ways to offset our utility rates through grant funding, looking to the General Fund and/or Penny money. I continue to be committed to the 50/50 split between bond funding and cash
- Continue funding of the ISAP

Finance

The Finance Department has long needed proper software to allow the most efficient and cost-effective use of their time. I ask for consideration of the following:

- Add \$500,000 to the Economic Stability Fund
- Investment Resource and Succession planning
- Increase the Finance operations budget for an investment research tool and funding for a minimum of at least one additional full-time employee to manage that software daily
- An additional budget line item for finance software to allow all departments to flow seamlessly to and through the Finance Department

Legal

I believe we have the finest legal team of any municipality in the State of Florida and respectfully request that we continue to fund our legal team in making them a competitor in the marketplace.

City Development

We have a lot going on in City Development. I don't have any specific requests other than to continue to provide all the necessary resources needed to move projects forward from agreement to grand opening.

In closing, budget season is always an exciting time as we look forward to our priorities while representing our citizens to the best of our ability. We were elected to not just hear but to listen to the voices of those we represent. This past year I engaged our Neighborhood Presidents, Administrators, and Directors, along with hundreds of residents on what they believe our priorities should be. As I reflect on my priorities, I am both excited and encouraged to be partnering with you knowing that we have the right people in the right place, at the right time to make these dreams a reality. We have been entrusted with a beautiful city and the reality of what it takes to balance the needs of today with the unknown needs of tomorrow. It is my continued pledge to work with you and your team as we move forward to ensure that the City of St. Petersburg perseveres to be the best it can be.

I look forward to another successful budget season alongside you at the helm.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Copley Gerdes" with a stylized "CG" monogram to the right.

Copley Gerdes
City Council Member District 1

cc: City Administrator Rob Gerdes
Assistant City Administrator Tom Greene
Chief of Staff Doyle Walsh
Budget Director Elizabeth Makofske
City Attorney Jackie Kovilaritch
City Council



MEMORANDUM

Office of City Council

TO: Mayor Kenneth T. Welch
FROM: Council Member Figgs-Sanders
SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Priorities
DATE: March 5, 2024

Mayor Welch,

Please consider this memo as my formal request for 2025 Fiscal Year Budget Priorities that I am confident would impact the quality of life for many St. Petersburg residents. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Also attached are Local 747 Budget Priorities for FY2025 per request. *Italicized priorities are all previous budget requests.*

HOUSING

- Expand City assistance to affordable workforce housing programs catered to organizations of proven housing stock productivity with highlighted focus on a multi-family business model. The organizations should also be willing to incorporate emergency rental assistance programs as well as utilize LEED certified construction shaping our communities to become more environmentally responsible.
- *Continued dollars for rental legal aid*
- *Reduction or alternative options other than increasing constituent Utility rates*
- *Continued incentives for ADUs and Tiny Home Developers*
- *Increase capital to acquire auctioned lots for affordable housing*

NEIGHBORHOODS/DISTRICTS

- *Strategic Plan for neighborhoods associations in each District*
- *Increase N-Team funding to assist with small non-permitted homeowner projects. Particularly for the elderly. **Recommended existing job training community programs. This has been a request since 2020.***
- *Shorelines, seawalls maintenance and restoration*
- *Bayway Landscaping Project*

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL SERVICES & ARTS

- *Retain funding and resources for teens transitioning out of foster care*
- *Increase funding for the Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum*
- *Expand Citywide sidewalk and road maintenance plans*

- *Additional funding for the Social Action Funding Committee (other needs not specifically tied to homeliness such as those combating food deserts etc.)*
- *Increase N-Team funding for Hidden Voices Program (\$50,000)*
- **Clam Bayou Dock restoration (this is city owned land)**
- **\$100,000 for the Lincoln Cemetery Restoration Project**
- *Sustain or increase funding for the CALL Program*
- *\$1,000,000 Palladium project*
- ***Replace/update the acoustics/audio equipment at the St. Petersburg Coliseum***

EDUCATIONAL & ECONOMIC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

- *Disparity Study initiatives and assistance for small, women and minority-owned businesses*
- *Partner with and assist funding for local educational systems to upskill, retrain, and provide certifications that would lead to increased opportunities for city employment (i.e., Educational Ecosystem started in 2020 with SPC)*
- **\$50,000 - \$100,000 for Saturday Shoppes Entrepreneur Academy**

ENVIRONMENTAL

- *Continue funding lake maintenance and equipment needed to perform the maintenance. Specifically, regarding the cattails at Lake Maggiore and Childs Park*
- *Continue funding for Private Lateral Loans citywide program*

YOUTH PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- *Expand our youth programs to include STEM, STEAM, and mental health services, including immediate household members as prescribed for holist family healing*
- *Additional funding for Youth Development Grants with emphasis on those not focused on STEM/STEAM (apprenticeships etc.)*
- *Continued funding for Directions for Living and homeless children (i.e., Maximo Elementary)*

TRANSPORTATION

- *Increase funding for Traffic Safety Programs: calming devices, rapid flashing beacons, crosswalks, etc.*
- ***Increase dollars for road maintenance (i.e., potholes, unpaved roads, restriping, resurfacing & alleys etc.)***
- *Incentives for Downtown Employees Parking Program*
- *Review and identify completion of Complete Streets Projects. Especially focusing on pedestrian and bicyclist safety and accessibility. It would be advantageous to continue consideration for additional funding for alternative modes of transportation.*



St. Petersburg Association of Firefighters Local 747

Local 747 Budget Priorities for FY2025

1. Prioritize hiring firefighter/paramedics to make all Engines ALS and place a second FF/PM on each rescue.
 - a. Upgrades to the ALS First Responder Agreement last year provides for an increase in the number of FF/PMs that the County funds. However, we are losing FF/PMs faster than we are hiring them.
 - b. Need to make peak units (ME1, ME3, and ME7) 24 hour units, instead of the 12 hours they currently operate. Should also require single-cert paramedics to become dual-certified FF/PMs within two years of being hired. Nearly every other department will hire paramedics and put them through the fire academy immediately because a dual-certified employee is more useful than a single-cert paramedic.
 - c. The ALS First Responder Agreement states that 11 out of 13 SPFR Engines are “Contractor funded,” meaning that the City pays for them to be ALS (by hiring FF/PMs). However, that is not true. The City pays for FF/EMTs and then takes a FF/PM off of each Rescue and only requires 7 of the 11 “Contractor funded” Engines to be ALS each day. Every day the City of St. Pete has four Engines that are not ALS, which can delay patient care on anything from a medical call to vehicle accident to structure fire.
 - d. Removing the second paramedic from each rescue places a higher workload and burden on individual FF/PMs and limits their ability for growth and development in the department. It also reduces the ability to administer life-saving ALS skills to critical patients in a timely manner.
 - e. St. Pete is one of the only departments in the County to handle staffing in this manner. Most departments only hire FF/PMs, since nearly 90% of the emergency calls are medical they should be handled by first responders that are able to provide the assistance needed.
2. Engine 1 back in service
 - a. Thank you for prioritizing the purchase of a new apparatus for E1 last year. However, the additional personnel are still needed and could be justified and funded by a FEMA SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) Grant. A SAFER Grant provides the bulk of the personnel costs for three years and has been successfully used by SPFR in the past; most recently for Engine 2 in 2016.
 - b. Requires 13 new FTEs. Approx cost \$1.5 million.
3. Truck 9 back in service
 - a. Engine 9 has a 75’ ladder on top, but the main reason for needing T9 back is not to have an apparatus with a ladder, but to have three additional firefighters able to respond and operate on scene faster than Truck 1 or Truck 4 currently can.
 - b. The need for this Truck will never go away and is only getting more dire with every passing year. We cannot depend on South Pasadena’s T20, which is ALS and frequently on medical calls, or St. Pete Beach’s T23, which may only have two FFs, to cover the west end of our City.
 - c. The City should at a minimum apply for a SAFER Grant for the personnel, as with E1. The City should also apply for an AFG (Assistance to Firefighter Grant) for the apparatus to start the nearly 4 year build process.
 - d. Requires 13 new FTEs and new ladder truck. Approx cost \$1.5 million plus the apparatus.



St. Petersburg Association of Firefighters Local 747


4. Heavy Rescue 4 back in service
 - a. HR4 is the department's technical rescue unit that responds to all extrications and technical rescue incidents.
 - b. HR4 is a \$1.2 million apparatus with six figures of equipment on it that sits unstaffed daily.
 - c. When there is a call for HR4, the firefighters from Engine 4 or Truck 4 have to get their bunker gear off of their apparatus and move to HR4 to respond.
 - d. This movement of personnel puts multiple units out of service to staff HR4, in order to respond to an incident.
 - e. If E4 or T4 are not in the station when HR4 is needed, the crews must respond emergency back to the station to pick up HR4. This can add 10+ minutes to the response time of a critical piece of apparatus and trained personnel.
 - f. Can be staffed with one or two firefighters daily. Would provide additional manpower and specialty equipment when needed. In addition, it could respond to several types of calls that it currently does not respond to, such as structure fires, gas leaks, and even hazmat incidents.
 - g. HR4 was previously staffed prior to budgets cuts post-2008
 - h. Requires four or eight new firefighters only. Approx cost \$400,000 or \$800,000.
5. Request County funding for Rescue 2
 - a. Kenneth City's Engine 16 is currently funded by the County for one FF/PM, but E16 is moving to Pinellas Park (US19, north of Gandy Blvd) in February 2024. The County funding will be going with them, with no additional units or funding to cover that area.
 - b. Currently, they are the closest unit for hundreds of EMS calls in St. Pete city limits, but E2 will now be the closest unit for the majority of those calls. In addition, they respond as one of several fire units to St. Pete, Kenneth City, and Lealman. With them gone, E2 will now respond in their place to additional fire calls.
 - c. Lealman received the roughly \$300,000 fire contract for Kenneth City, but is not staffing the station. This places the burden for a few thousand calls that E16 handled on a very limited number of fire units in the northwest St. Pete, Lealman, and Kenneth City area.
 - d. St. Pete Fire Station 2 is the only station in that area without funding for a rescue by the county. The additional calls that E2 picks up should justify the need for Rescue 2.
 - e. This could be a mid-year upgrade, like R13 was this past year. That would give the County and SPFR 6+ months to study the increase in call volume and workload for E2.
 - f. Requires eight new FF/PMs and an apparatus, but the cost is borne by the County.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE PENDING/CONTINUING REFERRALS						April 18, 2024	
	Topic	Return Date	Referral Date	Prior Meeting	Referred by	Staff	Notes
1	Discussion concerning potential changes to the Charter including elimination of the appointment process so that all City Council vacancies are filled through special election	4/18/24	10/20/22	(PSI) 7/13/23 (PSI) 11/9/23 (PSI) 3/21/24	Gabbard Hanewicz	Kovilaritch Pettigrew	PS&I Committee Action item approved at 4/4/24 CC Meeting moved the discussion to COW to address proposed amendments to the current process
2	FY '25 CIP Budget	5/7/24	Annual		Annual	Makofske	
3	FY '25 Operating Budget	5/7/24	Annual		Annual	Makofske	
4	Historic Gas Plant Redevelopment	TBD		10/26/23	City Council	Administration	At the 10/26/23 COW, City Council requested an additional meeting occur prior to considering approval of development agreements NBI (Montanari) approved at 2/8/24 CC Meeting requested discussion occur as a minimum of two meetings addressing: Rays Stadium (Operating Agreement, Development and Funding Agreement, and Financing) and Historic Gas Plant Redevelopment (Development Agreement and Financing) with two weeks notice allotted to review the proposed agreements & backup materials
5	2025 Calendar setting and selection of Chair and Vice Chair	12/12/24	Annual		Annual	Sheppard	
6	FY '26 Council Budget Priorities	1/23/25	Annual		Annual	Makofske	
7	Repetive Flooding Discussion	TBD	11/2/23		Gabbard	Tankersley Abernethy Rebholz Boulding	A revision to this NBI (Gabbard) was approved at the 3/21/24 CC Meeting expanding the discussion topics and requesting representatives from the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council as included presenters
8	Joint City Council / CBAC Meeting	TBD	11/2/23		Figgs-Sanders	Caper	Discussion on the Community Benefit Program NBI (Gabbard) approved at 1/11/24 CC Meeting requested discussion include committee appointment process for standing & ad hoc members
9	Fleet Maintenance Master Plan	TBD	3/23/23		Montanari	Quintana	
10	Discussion of potential revisions and/or updates to Section 5.06 of the City Charter concerning the City's Redistricting process.	TBD	12/8/22		Hanewicz	Pettigrew	

11	Stormwater Master Plan	TBD	8/12/21	5/25/23	Administration	Prayman	
12	City-Specific Dashboard & Update on St. Pete Stat	TBD	4/6/23		Council		Discussion originated at the 3/23/23 EWD Committee Meeting and was motioned by Chair Gabbard to bring to a Committee of the Whole
13	Integrated Water Resources Master Plan Update	TBD	7/20/23		Montanari	Tankersley Palenchar	
14	StPete 2050 Plan	TBD	12/17/19	10/22/20 1/28/21 8/26/21 2/24/22 5/26/22 8/25/22	Administration	Abernethy	Staff is working on the comp plan updates to implement the 2050 plan and anticipates providing a report to council on the draft changes in early 2025
15	Joint City Council/CPPC Meeting	TBD	3-Year Cycle	3/31/22	Comp Plan	Abernethy Kilborn	Comp Plan changes discussed to move joint meetings to an as-needed basis with the Historic Preservation Annual Report to come to CPPC and COW annually. The next joint meeting is slated to occur in 2025.
16	City Initiated Historic Designation	TBD	12/5/19	10/28/21	Gerdes	Abernethy Kilborn	Relates more specifically to the Detroit Hotel block and next steps. (i.e. Local Historic District, individual buildings along 200-block of Central Avenue, or multiple property listing of several commercial storefronts along Central Avenue east of 31 st Street.) This topic will be addressed in the next Joint City Council/CPPC Meeting in 2025
17	Review of City Council Policy and Procedures Manual	TBD	12/16/21	7/28/22	Council	Legal	Per Chapter 23 Article II Letter D: During the Committee of the Whole to discuss the calendar for the following year, City Council shall schedule a meeting as-needed to review the Manual for any updates or other amendments that are necessary or appropriate.
18	Implementation of Priority Dispatch	TBD	10/13/22		Gabbard	SPFR	This discussion will occur as-needed if the implementation of priority dispatch protocols are considered

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Chair Deborah Figgs-Sanders and Council Members

FROM: Brett B. Pettigrew, Assistant City Attorney 

DATE: April 12, 2024

SUBJECT: **Potential Charter amendments concerning the City Council and Mayoral vacancies to be discussed at a Committee of the Whole on April 18, 2024**

On April 4, 2024, City Council approved an action item from the Public Services & Infrastructure Committee (“**PS&I**”) for a Committee of the Whole (the “**COW**”) to consider certain amendments to the City Charter related to vacancies on City Council, which was supplemented by a recommendation from the City Attorney’s Office concerning potential amendment of the provision addressing Mayoral vacancies to accommodate scheduling parameters from the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections (the “**SOE**”). This memo addresses each of those topics in turn.

1. COUNCIL VACANCIES

To support discussion of the proposed changes concerning vacancies on City Council, this portion of the memo (A) summarizes the current process for filling a vacancy through appointment; (B) explains potential changes to increase the voting threshold for making an appointment; and (C) explains potential changes to avoid making an appointment during the election for the vacant position.

(A) CURRENT PROCESS

City Charter section 3.04 governs the process for filling vacancies on City Council, and an excerpt of the applicable provisions is attached as exhibit A. Generally speaking, the current process depends on the number of vacancies and operates as follows:

- If there are 1-2 vacancies, a majority of the remaining members fill the vacancy through appointment within 45 days of the vacancy occurring.
- If there are 3-7 vacancies, the remaining members must, within 15 days of those vacancies occurring, call a special election to fill those vacancies.
- If all 8 positions become vacant, the Governor appoints an interim City Council, which must then call a special election to fill those vacancies.

Although this memorandum (like the series of memos previously submitted to PS&I) addresses only the most likely scenario of one or two simultaneous vacancies, the approach summarized above could be simplified or clarified as part of the same Charter amendment under consideration by the COW.

(B) VOTING THRESHOLDS FOR APPOINTMENTS

The first change to the appointment process recommended for consideration by PS&I was to increase the voting threshold for the appointment process (currently, majority of the remaining members) to some sort of super-majority (which could be expressed as a percentage of membership or a fixed number of affirmative votes).

To inform consideration of this topic by the COW, the City Attorney's Office surveyed analogous provisions in the municipal charters of the twenty largest municipalities in Florida. The result of that survey can be summarized as follows:¹

Two of the municipalities maintain the default majority-of-quorum standard for vacancy-filling appointments:

- Tallahassee (#8 / Pop. 196,171 / Council-Manager)
- West Palm Beach (#18 / Pop. 117,315 / Council-Strong Mayor)

Sixteen of the municipalities (including St. Petersburg) use a majority-of-remaining-members standard for vacancy-filling appointments:

- Miami (#2 / Pop. 442,260 / Council-Strong Mayor)
- Tampa (#3 / Pop. 384,661 / Council-Strong Mayor)
- Orlando (#4 / Pop. 307,683 / Council-Strong Mayor)
- St. Petersburg (#5 / Pop. 258,356 / Council-Strong Mayor)
- Port St. Lucie (#7 / 204,856 / Council-Manager)
- Cape Coral (#9 / Pop. 193,994 / Council-Manager)

¹ Note that Jacksonville does not appear in any of the lists below because it has no appointment component and uses only special elections to fill a vacancy on its council.

- Fort Lauderdale (#10 / Pop. 182,775 / Council-Manager)
- Pembroke Pines (#11 / Pop. 171,182 / Council-Manager)
- Hollywood (#12 / Pop. 153,036 / Council-Manager)
- Gainesville (#13 / Pop. 141,079 / Council-Manager)
- Miramar (#14 / Pop. 134,706 / Council-Manager)
- Coral Springs (#15 / Pop. 134,396 / Council-Manager)
- Palm Bay (#16 / Pop. 119,752 / Council-Manager)
- Clearwater (#17 / Pop. 117,387 / Council-Manager)
- Lakeland (#19 / Pop. 112,640 / Council-Manager)
- Pompano Beach (#20 / Pop. 112,056 / Council-Manager)

One of the municipalities surveyed uses a super-majority standard—in this case, four affirmative votes, which is effectively a 2/3 super-majority:

- Hialeah (#6 / Pop. 223,123 / Council-Strong Mayor)

Additionally, please consider the following chart, which illustrates the quorum required for each possible number of Council Members for St. Petersburg, with percentage-based voting options shown for each level:

No. CMs	Quorum	Majority Vote	3/5 Vote	2/3 Vote	3/4 Vote
8	5	5 votes	5 votes	6 votes	6 votes
7	4	4 votes	5 votes	5 votes	6 votes
6	4	4 votes	4 votes	4 votes	5 votes
5	3	3 votes	3 votes	4 votes	4 votes
4	3	3 votes	3 votes	3 votes	3 votes
3	2	2 votes	2 votes	2 votes	3 votes
2	2	2 votes	2 votes	2 votes	2 votes
1	1	1 vote	1 vote	1 vote	1 vote

As you consider the chart, please consider the following points:

- Colorful shading is used to indicate commonalities for levels at which appointment may occur under the current Charter provision. For example, with 7 Council Members, there is no difference between a $\frac{3}{5}$ threshold and a $\frac{2}{3}$ threshold.
- Gray shading indicates levels at which appointment would not occur, but Council would continue to operate while a special election is pending.
- Voting to make an appointment is currently based on the remaining membership. For example, with 1 vacancy, an appointment would require the number of votes shown in the row for 7 Council Members—regardless of how many Council Members are actually in attendance at the meeting to make the appointment.
- Although this chart illustrates percentage-based thresholds, a fixed number remains an option (e.g., in the same way the Charter requires 6 affirmative votes for various park- and waterfront-related matters, regardless of how many Council Members are currently in office and voting).

Any change to effectuate a super-majority standard would be relatively straightforward, and the relevant text has been highlighted in the strikethrough–underline version of the applicable Charter provisions attached as exhibit B.

(C) OVERLAP WITH REGULAR ELECTION CYCLE

The second change to the appointment process recommended for consideration by PS&I was to avoid making an appointment during the regular election cycle for the vacant position. Consider the following example:

- CM Smith is in the final year of her second term, and she is ineligible to run for re-election.
- In June, multiple candidates qualify for the election to pick a successor for CM Smith.
- In July, after qualifying for that election has ended, CM Smith resigns unexpectedly. This creates a vacancy during the same six-month period in which the election for her successor will occur.
- City Council now has 45 days required to appoint someone to fill that vacancy, with each of the qualified candidates for that position eligible for—and presumably interested in—securing that appointment.

To avoid the potential pressure to appoint—or avoid appointing—a candidate, the Charter could be amended to make appointment be optional or prohibited when the vacancy occurs during (or close to) an election to fill the applicable position.

To inform consideration of this topic by the COW, the City Attorney’s Office surveyed analogous provisions in the municipal charters of the twenty largest municipalities in Florida. Only one—Pompano Beach—had a similar provision this, and that provision made appointment optional in the final 60 days of the term, without any reference to when the applicable election would take place.

For consideration by the COW, exhibit B contains proposed amendment language that would prohibit appointment that occurs during the regular election cycle for that Council district. As noted in a footnote to that exhibit, the specific time period to which this would apply is a matter of policy, and the bracketed text in the proposed amendment can be revised as needed to reflect policy decisions of the COW.

2. MAYORAL VACANCIES

To support discussion of the proposed changes concerning a Mayoral vacancy, this portion of the memo (A) summarizes the current process for addressing a Mayoral vacancy; (B) summarizes how other strong-mayor municipalities approach mayoral vacancies; and (C) outlines potential amendments to the Charter.

(A) CURRENT PROCESS

Charter section 4.01 reflects the City’s strong-mayor form of government, providing that the Mayor is the “chief administrative official of the City” and is “responsible for the administration of all City affairs placed in the Mayor’s charge by or under this Charter.” To prevent any gap in the exercise of this administrative authority, Charter subsection 3.04(a)(2) provides a separate provision for addressing a Mayoral vacancy that can be summarized as follows:

- Throughout the vacancy, the City Administrator serves as the “Acting Mayor” and is authorized to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the Mayor.
- If the vacancy occurs within eight months of a regular City election and prior to the beginning of qualifying for that election, an election for Mayor must be held as part of that election, and the person elected will fill any unexpired portion of the current term.

- If the vacancy occurs at any time and would require an Acting Mayor to serve for more than six months, City Council must adopt an ordinance calling “a special primary and general election for Mayor to be completed within five months of the occurrence of the vacancy.”

As discussed during the three meetings of PS&I to discuss the vacancy-filling process, there is a three-year cycle for regular elections in Pinellas County summarized in exhibit C, and the SOE is likely to require any special election to be held in conjunction with one of those regular elections. According to analysis prepared for those meetings based on input from the SOE and attached to this memorandum as exhibit E, holding a series of two municipal special elections for the City would likely take 6–14 months, with an average of 9 months.

Accordingly, the 5-month window currently provided in the Charter remains may no longer be realistic,² and in an email on April 3, 2024, the City Attorney’s Office recommended that the COW also consider potential amendment of the Charter’s Mayoral vacancy provision to provide sufficient flexibility to accommodate scheduling parameters from the SOE.

(B) OTHER JURISDICTIONS

Of the 20 municipal charters surveyed in preparation for this memo, 7 (including the 6 largest) have a strong-mayor form of government:

- Jacksonville (#1 / Pop. 949,616)
- Miami (#2 / Pop. 442,260)
- Tampa (#3 / Pop. 384,661)
- Orlando (#4 / Pop. 307,683)
- St. Petersburg (#5 / Pop. 258,356)
- Hialeah (#6 / Pop. 223,123)
- West Palm Beach (#18 / Pop. 117,315)

² The current provision is also somewhat difficult to parse, and certain timing scenarios may result in absurd outcomes where the City is required to hold a vacancy-filling election simultaneously with a regular election, with potentially different winners and a vacancy-filling winner holding office for less than a month.

Generally speaking, the charter of each of those municipalities uses an approach that ensures that some form of “acting mayor” is immediately available to exercise mayoral authority, with variations based on who serves in that capacity and when a replacement is elected:

- To select the acting mayor, some use an order of succession drawing from within the administration (e.g., St. Petersburg) or from within the city council (e.g., Tampa). Others require the city council to appoint an acting Mayor (e.g., Orlando). One combines the two approaches (e.g., in Jacksonville, if none of the four successors from council leadership will serve, the council appoints someone else).
- With regard to election of a replacement, some allow the acting mayor to serve through next regular election cycle (e.g., Miami and Hialeah), while others require a special election be held to elect a replacement, with timing of that election based on how much time is left in the term (e.g., Tampa requires a special election if more than 15 months remain) or how long the acting mayor would serve (e.g., West Palm Beach requires a special election if the acting mayor would serve for more than 90 days).

With that in mind, the next subsection proposes two potential approaches to amending the City charter for consideration by the COW.

(C) POTENTIAL CHARTER AMENDMENTS

To address the timing concerns discussed in subsection (A), above, the simplest solution would be to follow the approach used by Miami and Hialeah—i.e., to allow the acting mayor to serve through the next regular municipal election cycle. Based on analysis conducted for the November 2023 PS&I meeting attached as exhibit D, that would result in an acting mayor for a period of 6–29 months, with an average of 16 months.

Another approach would reduce the duration in which the City had an “Acting Mayor” by using a combination of regular elections and special elections through a process that can be generally described as follows:

- If the vacancy occurs in an even year in which a Mayoral election would already occur (’26, ’30, etc.), allow that regular election to occur as usual. This would avoid the cost and confusion holding four municipal elections in a single calendar year.
- If the vacancy occurs in an even year in which there would ordinarily be *only* City Council elections (’28, ’32, etc.) but the SOE is able to add a special election for Mayor, use that combination of a regular election and special election to elect someone to serve out the unexpired two years of the Mayoral term. This also avoids the cost and confusion holding four municipal elections in a single calendar year.

- In any other circumstance, the City Clerk would request scheduling options for a special election from the SOE, and City Council would adopt a resolution or ordinance scheduling that special election based on consideration of factors identified in the Charter (e.g., timing, cost and availability of funds, availability of early voting, prevention of voter confusion, etc.). Potential options for a two-election pairing are illustrated on the illustration for the March 2024 meeting of PS&I that is attached as exhibit E.
- Regardless of the schedule, the winner would take office at the next City Council meeting, rather than waiting until January.

As discussed at each meeting of PS&I to address this topic, the process of administering an election has become increasingly complicated, and many municipal charters purport to require timeframes that may no longer be possible to accommodate. The approach outlined above, while not found in any of the charters surveyed in preparation for this COW, is intended to recognize and accommodate that complexity.

Ultimately, the approach to addressing Mayoral vacancies is a policy question, and if the COW determines that amendment of the current provision is appropriate, proposed language can be drafted to effectuate the policy direction of the COW—whether one of the two options described above or another.

3. CONCLUSION

I hope the information in this this memo is helpful. If the COW elects to continue development of a potential amendment to the applicable Charter section(s), a referendum ordinance would need to be adopted before the SOE deadline for placing items on the November 2024 ballot, which usually occurs in late July or early August.

I look forward to supporting the continued discussion of this item at next week's COW. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

EXHIBIT A
EXCERPTS FROM CURRENT CHARTER

Current Charter provisions related to City Council and Mayoral vacancies are as follows:

Sec. 3.04. Council Members and Mayor Vacancies; Removal from Office.

(a) *Vacancies.*

(1) *Vacancies on City Council, generally.*

A. Except for resignations falling within the scope of subsection (a)(1)B or extraordinary vacancies as provided for in subsection (b), any vacancy on the City Council, (including a vacancy caused by death, resignation, refusal to serve, removal from office, or failure to maintain the residence required when elected or appointed) shall be filled as follows:

1. Such vacancy shall be filled no more than 45 days after the vacancy occurs through a majority vote of the remaining Council Members to appoint a person who meets the requirements in subsection C.
2. A Council Member appointed pursuant to this subsection shall be replaced with an elected Council Member through the next primary and general municipal election for which the qualifying period has not begun at the time of the vacancy. If the applicable City Council district would not ordinarily be included in that municipal election cycle pursuant to Section 3.02, the term for a person elected for such a district pursuant to this subsection A shall end at the time the term of the person who originally vacated the position would have ended.

B. *Vacancies on the Council caused by certain types of resignation:*

1. When the resignation is submitted prior to the beginning of the qualifying period for the municipal

elections to take place in the year the resignation is submitted; and

2. The effective date of the resignation is later than the date the resignation was submitted and is later than the beginning of the qualifying period for the municipal elections to take place in the year the resignation is submitted;

then the election to fill this seat with an elected Council Member shall take place in the primary and general municipal elections to take place in the year the resignation was submitted. The person so elected shall take office on the date in January of the year following the election in accordance with Charter section 3.02(c). However, where a resignation would result in a district being unrepresented for more than 50 days, the majority of the remaining members of the Council may, through a majority vote taking place within 45 days of the actual vacancy occurring, appoint a person to fill the vacancy who meets the requirements set forth in subsection 3.04(a)(1)C. and who shall serve until the person elected as provided in this subsection 3.04(a)(1)B. takes office.

- C. With respect to any appointment made pursuant to this subsection (a)(1), the following provisions apply:
 1. The person appointed must be a resident of the district in which the vacancy occurs and must otherwise satisfy all qualifications required for elected Council Members.
 2. The appointed Council Member shall serve until replaced by an elected Council Member as provided in this subsection (a)(1).

3. Appointments or elections to fill a vacancy shall not change the base year for, or the date of commencement of, the terms of each district established in Section 3.02.

(2) Vacancy of the Mayor caused by death, resignation, refusal of the Mayor to serve, removal, or for any other reason, shall be filled as provided for in Section 4.03 below. When the vacancy occurs within eight months of a regularly scheduled City election and prior to the beginning of the qualifying period for that election, an election for Mayor shall be held as part of that election. The Acting Mayor shall serve until the newly elected Mayor is sworn in. The newly elected Mayor shall serve the unexpired term of the previous Mayor if the election is one in which there would not normally be a Mayoral race.

If the vacancy occurs at any other time and would require an individual to serve as Acting Mayor for a period of greater than six months, then City Council shall schedule a special primary and general election for Mayor to be completed within five months of the occurrence of the vacancy. City Council shall by ordinance provide for the dates of the elections and the length of the qualifying period which qualifying period shall in no event be less than one week. The individual elected in this manner shall take office 30 days after the results of the election are certified and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the previous Mayor.

(b) *Extraordinary Vacancies.*

(1) In the event that all members of the City Council are removed by death, disability, or forfeiture of office, the governor shall appoint an interim City Council that shall call a special election to fill all City Council positions.

(2) Should three or more vacancies occur simultaneously on Council, the remaining members shall within 15 days call a special election to fill the vacant City Council positions.

- (3) Each City Council member who takes office as the result of an election called pursuant to this subsection 3.04(b) shall take office 30 days after the results of that election are certified and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the Council Member whose vacancy resulted in the application of this subsection 3.04(b).

. . .

Sec. 4.03. Acting Mayor.

The City Administrator shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of the Mayor during any temporary absence or disability or if the Mayor is removed from or otherwise vacates the office. During a temporary absence, not due to a disability, the Mayor shall provide to the City Administrator, with a copy to the City Clerk, a memo delineating the extent to which the City Administrator may act on the Mayors behalf.

EXHIBIT B
POTENTIAL CHARTER AMENDMENTS

The following are potential amendments to the applicable Charter provisions as discussed in the memo to which this is attached, with additions indicated by underlining, deletions indicated by ~~strikethrough text~~, and unchanged paragraphs omitted for brevity indicated by three ellipsis dots centered on a separate line. Open policy decisions are **[highlighted in brackets]**.

Sec. 3.04. Council Members and Mayor Vacancies; Removal from Office.

(a) *Vacancies.*

(1) *Vacancies on City Council, generally.*

A. Except for resignations falling within the scope of subsection (a)(1)B or extraordinary vacancies as provided for in subsection (b), any vacancy on the City Council, (including a vacancy caused by death, resignation, refusal to serve, removal from office, or failure to maintain the residence required when elected or appointed) shall be filled as follows:

1. A vacancy occurring in the year of a regular election for that position shall not be filled if the vacancy occurs during the period starting **[on the first day of the qualification period]**³ for that election and running through the date on which the winner of that election has been certified or otherwise determined in accordance with applicable law. The winner of that election will take office on the date of the next meeting of City Council, rather than as provided in subsection 3.02(c).⁴
2. ~~Such~~ Otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled no more than 45 days after the vacancy occurs

³ The specific starting date is a policy decision, and the bracketed text can be changed as needed to reflect the intent of the COW.

⁴ If Council wants to use this approach, the corresponding subsection 3.02(c) would be amended to clarify the interaction between the two.

through a [majority / two-thirds / other] vote of the remaining Council Members] to appoint a person who meets the requirements in subsection C.

3. A Council Member appointed pursuant to this subsection shall be replaced with an elected Council Member through the next primary and general municipal election for which the qualifying period has not begun at the time of the vacancy. If the applicable City Council district would not ordinarily be included in that municipal election cycle pursuant to Section 3.02, the term for a person elected for such a district pursuant to this subsection A shall end at the time the term of the person who originally vacated the position would have ended.

B. *Vacancies on the Council caused by certain types of resignation:*

1. When the resignation is submitted prior to the beginning of the qualifying period for the municipal elections to take place in the year the resignation is submitted; and
2. The effective date of the resignation is later than the date the resignation was submitted and is later than the beginning of the qualifying period for the municipal elections to take place in the year the resignation is submitted;

then the election to fill this seat with an elected Council Member shall take place in the primary and general municipal elections to take place in the year the resignation was submitted. The person so elected shall take office on the date in January of the year following the election in accordance with Charter section 3.02(c). However, where a resignation would result in a district being unrepresented for more than 50 days, the majority of the remaining members of the Council may, through a majority vote taking place within 45 days

of the actual vacancy occurring, appoint a person to fill the vacancy who meets the requirements set forth in subsection ~~3.04~~(a)(1)C. and who shall serve until the person elected as provided in this subsection ~~3.04~~(a)(1)B. takes office.

- C. With respect to any appointment made pursuant to this subsection (a)(1), the following provisions apply:
1. The person appointed must be a resident of the district in which the vacancy occurs and must otherwise satisfy all qualifications required for an elected Council Members.
 2. The appointed Council Member shall serve until replaced by an elected Council Member as provided in this subsection (a)(1).
 3. Appointments or elections to fill a vacancy shall not change the base year for, or the date of commencement of, the terms of each district established in Section 3.02.

- (2) Mayoral vacancies. Vacancy of the Mayor (caused by death, resignation, refusal of the Mayor to serve, removal, or for any other reason), shall be filled as provided for in Section 4.03, below, and as follows: TBD provisions, as discussed in memo section 2(C)

~~When the vacancy occurs within eight months of a regularly scheduled City election and prior to the beginning of the qualifying period for that election, an election for Mayor shall be held as part of that election. The Acting Mayor shall serve until the newly elected Mayor is sworn in. The newly elected Mayor shall serve the unexpired term of the previous Mayor if the election is one in which there would not normally be a Mayoral race.~~

~~If the vacancy occurs at any other time and would require an individual to serve as Acting Mayor for a period of greater than six months, then City Council shall schedule a special primary~~

~~and general election for Mayor to be completed within five months of the occurrence of the vacancy. City Council shall by ordinance provide for the dates of the elections and the length of the qualifying period which qualifying period shall in no event be less than one week. The individual elected in this manner shall take office 30 days after the results of the election are certified and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the previous Mayor.~~

(b) *Extraordinary Vacancies.*

- (1) In the event that all members of the City Council are removed by death, disability, or forfeiture of office, the governor shall appoint an interim City Council that shall call a special election to fill all City Council positions.
- (2) Should three or more vacancies occur simultaneously on Council, the remaining members shall within 15 days call a special election to fill the vacant City Council positions.
- (3) Each City Council member who takes office as the result of an election called pursuant to this subsection 3.04(b) shall take office 30 days after the results of that election are certified and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the Council Member whose vacancy resulted in the application of this subsection 3.04(b).

. . .

Sec. 4.03. Acting Mayor.

The City Administrator shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of the Mayor during any temporary absence or disability or if the Mayor is removed from or otherwise vacates the office. During a temporary absence, not due to a disability, the Mayor shall provide to the City Administrator, with a copy to the City Clerk, a memo delineating the extent to which the City Administrator may act on the Mayors behalf.

EXHIBIT C
THREE-YEAR ELECTION CYCLE

Three-Year Cycle for Availability of Vacancy-Filling Elections

Cycle	Year	Month	Election Type	National Races	State Races	Local Races	Vacancy-Filling Election Available	Early Voting Available ¹	Additional Cost to City	Months Until Next Election ⁶
Even (POTUS)	2024	March	Pres. Pref. Primary + Local	POTUS Pref. Primary	N/A	Other muni. officials	Y—Special	Y	Medium ²	5
	2024	August	Primary	U.S. House / Senate Primary*	Fla. House / Senate Primary	County Primary* St. Pete Primary (Odd Districts)* Other Muni. Primary*	Y—Regular	Y	Low–Medium ³	3
	2024	November	General	POTUS U.S. House / Senate	Fla. House / Senate	County (BCC, SOE, Sheriff, etc.) St. Pete General (Odd Districts) Other muni. officials	Y—Regular	Y	Negligible ⁴	4
Odd	2025	March	Municipal (only)	N/A	N/A	Other muni. officials	Y—Special	N	High ⁵	5–8
	2025	August	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBD—Depends on SOE availability	N	High ⁵	3
	2025	November	Municipal (only)	N/A	N/A	Other muni. officials	Y—Special	N	High ⁵	4
Even (Gov)	2026	March	Municipal (only)	N/A	N/A	Other muni. officials	Y—Special	N	Medium ²	5
	2026	August	Primary	U.S. House / Senate Primary*	Fla. Gov. Primary* Fla. Cabinet Primary* Fla. House / Senate Primary*	County Primary* St. Pete Primary (Mayor + Even Dist.)* Other Muni. Primary*	Y—Regular	Y	Negligible–Low ⁴	3
	2026	November	General	U.S. House / Senate	Fla. Gov. Fla. Cabinet Fla. House / Senate	County (School Board) St. Pete General (Mayor + Even Dist.) Other muni. officials	Y—Regular	Y	Negligible ⁴	4

* Election held only as needed (e.g., no primary is needed when only two candidates qualify; no mayoral general election when candidates gets majority in primary; etc.).

1. Early voting required only when a federal or state election is occurring. SOE has discretion to provide early voting during other elections and has declined to do so unless required by law. See Fla. Stat. § 101.657(d).
2. Although this is a city-wide election, additional ballots would definitely be needed for the no-party affiliation voters who would not normally participate in a partisan primary and might also be needed for voters in a party that has no primary at this time.
3. If there is not a citywide primary for a national, state, or local office, the City would have to pay the SOE for polling places and ballots for each of the even-numbered districts that was not scheduled to have a primary at this time.
4. The City is expected to have a regular citywide election at this time (i.e., a Mayoral race or a Council general election); so, the cost to add an additional race for vacancy filling-purposes would likely be negligible. The most likely exception would occur if only two candidates qualified to run for Mayor, in which case the primary would be limited to even-numbered Council districts, and additional costs might be incurred if one of the other races was not already citywide.
5. The cost to hold a vacancy-filing election during an odd year would be at least as high as what the City previously incurred for its odd-year elections (and would likely be higher due to inflation and the extra cost inherent in holding an election on an unexpected, short-notice basis). As a reference point, the City incurred \$613K in expenses for the 2021 election cycle. So, a vacancy-filing election with a runoff during an odd year would likely exceed that cost.
6. If a majority vote is required for a special vacancy-filing election and none was achieved, the gap between that election and the runoff would depend on when the initial election was held. That issue would be particularly acute if the initial special vacancy-filing was held in March during an odd year in which the SOE is unwilling / unable to provide an August special election. In that case, there would be an 8-month gap between the initial election and the runoff.

EXHIBIT D
NOVEMBER 2023 ILLUSTRATION FOR PS&I

Vacancy-Filling Scenarios for Odd-District CM Elected in 2024

Vacancy				Filled Through Next Regular City Election				Filled Through Next Single Election (Any)				
Year	Date of Vacancy	Months Into Term	Months Until End of Term	Next Muni Cycle	Qualifying Date	General Election Date	Months Vacant or Appointed	Next Single Election	90 Days Prior (SOE Deadline)	Single-Election Date	Months Vacant w/ Single Election	Δ Months to Resolve
2025	01/15/25	0	48				22				10	-12
2025	02/15/25	1	47				21				9	-12
2025	03/15/25	2	46				20				8	-12
2025	04/15/25	3	45				19	2025 OY Nov. Muni-Only	08/04/25	11/02/25	7	-12
2025	05/15/25	4	44				18				6	-12
2025	06/15/25	5	43				17				5	-12
2025	07/15/25	6	42				16				4	-12
2025	08/15/25	7	41				15				7	-8
2025	09/15/25	8	40	2026	06/02/26	11/03/26	14	2026 EY Mar. Muni-Only	12/17/25	03/17/26	6	-8
2025	10/15/25	9	39				13				5	-8
2025	11/15/25	10	38				12				4	-8
2025	12/15/25	11	37				11				3	-8
2026	01/15/26	12	36				10				7	-3
2026	02/15/26	13	35				9				6	-3
2026	03/15/26	14	34				8	2026 EY Primary (Gov.)	05/20/26	08/18/26	5	-3
2026	04/15/26	15	33				7				4	-3
2026	05/15/26	16	32				6				3	-3
2026	06/15/26	17	31				29	2026 EY General (Gov.)	08/03/26	11/01/26	5	-24
2026	07/15/26	18	30				28				4	-24
2026	08/15/26	19	29				27				7	-20
2026	09/15/26	20	28				26				6	-20
2026	10/15/26	21	27				25	2027 OY Mar. Muni-Only	12/16/26	03/16/27	5	-20
2026	11/15/26	22	26				24				4	-20
2026	12/15/26	23	25				23				3	-20
2027	01/15/27	24	24				22				7	-15
2027	02/15/27	25	23				21				6	-15
2027	03/15/27	26	22				20	2027 OY Aug. TBD	05/19/27	08/17/27	5	-15
2027	04/15/27	27	21				19				4	-15
2027	05/15/27	28	20	2028	06/06/28	11/07/28	18				3	-15
2027	06/15/27	29	19				17	2027 OY Nov. Muni-Only	08/09/27	11/07/27	5	-12
2027	07/15/27	30	18				16				4	-12
2027	08/15/27	31	17				15				7	-8
2027	09/15/27	32	16				14				6	-8
2027	10/15/27	33	15				13	2028 Pres. Pref. Primary + Local	12/22/27	03/21/28	5	-8
2027	11/15/27	34	14				12				4	-8
2027	12/15/27	35	13				11				3	-8
2028	01/15/28	36	12				10				7	-3
2028	02/15/28	37	11				9				6	-3
2028	03/15/28	38	10				8	2028 EY Primary (Pres.)	05/17/28	08/15/28	5	-3
2028	04/15/28	39	9				7				4	-3
2028	05/15/28	40	8				6				3	-3
2028	06/15/28	41	7				7	2028 EY General (Pres.)	08/07/28	11/05/28	5	-24
2028	07/15/28	42	6				6				4	-24
2028	08/15/28	43	5				5				7	-20
2028	09/15/28	44	4	2030	06/04/30	11/05/30	4				6	-20
2028	10/15/28	45	3				3	2029 OY Mar. Muni-Only	12/20/28	03/20/29	5	-20
2028	11/15/28	46	2				2				4	-20
2028	12/15/28	47	1				1				3	-20
Average							16				5	-10
Minimum							6				3	-3
Maximum							29				10	-24

EXHIBIT E
MARCH 2024 ILLUSTRATION FOR PS&I

MARCH 2024 MEMO EXHIBIT A
 Vacancy-Filling Scenarios for Odd-District CM Elected in 2024
 Using First Available Pair of Regularly-Scheduled Elections

Vacancy				Next Available for Primary				Next Available for General			Analysis		
Year	Date of Vacancy	Months Into Term	Months Until End of Term	Next Available Election	Early Voting	90 Days Prior (SOE Deadline)	Election Date	Next Available Election	Early Voting	Election Date	Months Between Elections	Early Voting	Months Vacant
2025	01/15/25	0	48										14
2025	02/15/25	1	47										13
2025	03/15/25	2	46										12
2025	04/15/25	3	45	2025 OY Nov. Muni-Only	N	08/04/25	11/02/25	2026 EY Mar. Muni-Only	N	03/17/26	5	None	11
2025	05/15/25	4	44										10
2025	06/15/25	5	43										9
2025	07/15/25	6	42										8
2025	08/15/25	7	41										12
2025	09/15/25	8	40	2026 EY Mar. Muni-Only	N	12/17/25	03/17/26	2026 EY Primary (Gov.)	Y	08/18/26	5	General Only	11
2025	10/15/25	9	39										10
2025	11/15/25	10	38										9
2025	12/15/25	11	37										8
2026	01/15/26	12	36										10
2026	02/15/26	13	35	2026 EY Primary (Gov.)	Y	05/20/26	08/18/26	2026 EY General (Gov.)	Y	11/01/26	2	Both	9
2026	03/15/26	14	34										8
2026	04/15/26	15	33										7
2026	05/15/26	16	32										6
2026	06/15/26	17	31	2026 EY General (Gov.)	Y	08/03/26	11/01/26	2027 OY Mar. Muni-Only	N	03/16/27	5	Primary only	9
2026	07/15/26	18	30										8
2026	08/15/26	19	29										12
2026	09/15/26	20	28	2027 OY Mar. Muni-Only	N	12/16/26	03/16/27	2027 OY Aug. TBD	N	08/17/27	5	None	11
2026	10/15/26	21	27										10
2026	11/15/26	22	26										9
2026	12/15/26	23	25										8
2027	01/15/27	24	24										10
2027	02/15/27	25	23	2027 OY Aug. TBD	N	05/19/27	08/17/27	2027 OY Nov. Muni-Only	N	11/07/27	3	None	9
2027	03/15/27	26	22										8
2027	04/15/27	27	21										7
2027	05/15/27	28	20										6
2027	06/15/27	29	19	2027 OY Nov. Muni-Only	N	08/09/27	11/07/27	2028 Pres. Pref. Primary + Local	Y	03/21/28	4	General Only	9
2027	07/15/27	30	18										8
2027	08/15/27	31	17										12
2027	09/15/27	32	16	2028 Pres. Pref. Primary + Local	Y	12/22/27	03/21/28	2028 EY Primary (Pres.)	Y	08/15/28	5	Both	11
2027	10/15/27	33	15										10
2027	11/15/27	34	14										9
2027	12/15/27	35	13										8
2028	01/15/28	36	12	2028 EY Primary (Pres.)	Y	05/17/28	08/15/28	2028 EY General (Pres.)	Y	11/05/28	3	Both	10
2028	02/15/28	37	11										9
2028	03/15/28	38	10										8
2028	04/15/28	39	9										7
2028	05/15/28	40	8										6
2028	06/15/28	41	7	2028 EY General (Pres.)	Y	08/07/28	11/05/28	2029 OY Mar. Muni-Only	N	03/20/29	5	Primary only	9
2028	07/15/28	42	6										8
2028	08/15/28	43	5										12
2028	09/15/28	44	4	2029 OY Mar. Muni-Only	N	12/20/28	03/20/29	2029 OY Aug. TBD	N	08/21/29	5	None	11
2028	10/15/28	45	3										10
2028	11/15/28	46	2										9
2028	12/15/28	47	1										8
Average											4		9
Minimum											2		6
Maximum											5		14