


How We're Listening

Top Areas of Satisfaction:

- ✓ Access to local government services
- ✓ Sense of community
- ✓ Employment opportunities
- ✓ Availability of parks and public spaces
- ✓ Cleanliness of public areas

Improved Traffic Flow

 **PENNY FOR PINELLAS** Penny for Pinellas funds will support the Florida Department of Transportation's Mid County Gateway Expressway Project. The Expressway will provide faster travel by increasing traffic flow capacity by nearly 90%. The 5-year construction effort is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2017.

Pedestrian Safety

To provide you safer access to the County's approximately 1,200 miles of sidewalks, we replaced over 40,000 square feet of damaged sidewalks. Additionally, new sidewalk was constructed to provide children safer access to their neighborhoods from centralized bus stops along these roadways: 66th Avenue (Seminole), South Highlands Avenue (Clearwater) and Pennsylvania Avenue (Palm Harbor).

Aging-Friendly Community

To continue serving our senior population and reach our goal of becoming an Aging-Friendly Community, we led initiatives such as:

- Launched Pinellas County Senior Connections website with links and dozens of resources on topics relevant to our seniors. Visit the website at PinellasCounty.org/HumanServices/Seniors.
- Conducted an Aging-Friendly Symposium to support the countywide mission of better meeting the needs of our seniors.
- We proclaimed August 21 as National Senior Citizens Day to bring awareness to the many services available to our seniors.

Top Areas of Opportunity:

- ✓ Improved traffic flow
- ✓ Pedestrian safety
- ✓ Aging-friendly community
- ✓ Improved behavioral health services
- ✓ Support for the homeless

Improved Behavioral Health Services

We are supporting the Elevate program to help youth offenders obtain the mental and behavioral help they need. Funded by a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the program reduces crime and substance abuse among high-risk/high-need, nonviolent offenders ages 18-30. We also launched a High Utilizer Behavioral Health Pilot in partnership with community agencies to identify key issues that contribute to high use of the jail and the public crisis stabilization unit. The pilot program will address system gaps, as well as barriers to successful treatment, to achieve better services and outcomes for patients.

Support for the Homeless

To help residents in most need, we partnered with Catholic Charities Diocese of St. Petersburg to achieve installation of four Hope Cottages. Located in Clearwater, the new units will provide secure, temporary residences for homeless individuals while they work toward more stable housing.

