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**Comparison of Estimated Taxes,
Fees and Charges**

Unincorporated (Largo Fire District) & City of Largo

Assumed Taxable Value: \$60,000

| | Unincorporated | | City of Largo | |
|--|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Taxes/Fees | Rate | \$ Amount | Rate | \$ Amount |
| Property Tax | | | | |
| Municipal Service Taxing Unit vs. City Tax | 2.356 mills | \$141.36 | 4.75 mills | \$285.00 |
| Library | 0.5 mills | \$30.00 | - - | |
| Largo Fire District | 3.329 mills | \$199.74 | - - | |
| Aggregate Countywide Taxes | 17.2164 mills | 1,032.98 | 17.2164 mills | 1,032.98 |
| Total Property Tax | 23.4014 mills | 1,404.08 | 21.9664 mills | 1,317.98 |
| Other Fees and Taxes | | | | |
| Electricity (if \$100/month) | 0.00% | | 16.00% | \$192.00 |
| Telephone/Cable (if \$50/month) | 5.10% | \$30.60 | 5.50% | \$33.00 |
| Gas (if \$10/month) | 0.00% | | 16.00% | \$19.20 |
| Water (if \$35/month) | 0.00% | | 10.00% | \$42.00 |
| Fuel Oil (per Gallon) | \$0.00 | | \$0.04 | \$4.80 |
| Total Other Fees & Taxes | | \$30.60 | | \$291.00 |
| Charges & Assessments: | | | | |
| Water | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 * |
| Sewer | \$0.00 | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 * |
| Stormwater (monthly) | \$0.00 | 0 | \$3.57 | \$42.84 |
| Total All | | 1,434.68 | | 1,646.18 |

* This analysis assumes Water and Sewer service is provided by Pinellas County Utilities.

Notes:

- Refuse charges are not included in this analysis; rates vary.
- Millage rates reflect FY05 proposed rates.
- Aggregate countywide taxes include those taxes that are paid by all residents of the county regardless of residing in an unincorporated or incorporated area. (Countywide, School Board, Planning Council, Juvenile Welfare Board, PSTA, SWFWMD, Anclote River Basin)
- Unincorporated fees & charges based on FY05; city fees & charges based upon FY05.
- CST (Telephone/Cable) tax rate reflects County rate of 5.1% effective 1/1/03, and City of Largo rate of 5.5% effective 1/1/03. Excludes 0.12% non-levy of permit fees.
- Assumed monthly utility amounts are estimates; actual use may vary.
- Stormwater for the unincorporated area is included as part of the MSTU tax rate.
- Approximate geographical references have been made to aid this analysis but residents are encouraged to double-check this information in each individual case.

*Pinellas County complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
To obtain accessible formats of this document, please contact the
Communications Department at (727) 464-4600/TDD (727) 464-4431.*

Printed on recycled paper 10/04

Greater Ridgecrest

We're glad you're a part of

**Unincorporated
Pinellas**

**Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756**

Your County Connection Centers

North
2431 Tampa Road
Palm Harbor, FL 34684 793-2300

Southeast
14010 Roosevelt Boulevard, Suite 706
Clearwater, FL 33762 453-7394

Southwest
8202 113th Street
Seminole, FL 33772 549-6441

Here's What You Get as an Unincorporated Resident
Personalized Assistance to Meet Your Individual Needs Right Where You Live

Sarah Williams, Greater Ridgecrest Area Neighborhood Planner, gives you personalized assistance to help you address a wide range of issues.

Sarah has been a familiar face in the Greater Ridgecrest Area for one and a half years and has worked hard to build relationships and identify ways to continue making this community a great place to live. You can reach Sarah at 464-8251.



Left to right: Kathy MacDaniel, Jane Gillespie, Sarah Williams

The Southwest County Connection Center, located at the Utilities Service Center at 8202 113th Street in Seminole, is also available to assist you. Staff is available to meet with residents at homeowner meetings, community meetings, or individually if that's most convenient for you. You can call the County Connection Center at 549-6441 and ask for Jane Gillespie, manager, or her assistant, Kathy MacDaniel.

Support for Your Neighborhood – Services and Enhancements

Pinellas County has been committed to the revitalization of the Greater Ridgecrest Area for many years. Recent efforts include various infrastructure improvements within the Baskin Heights subdivision such as 116th, 117th and 118th streets; and 130th and 132nd



avenues. Originally, these roads were dirt roads and today they have new sidewalks, water and sewer lines, and drainage. Additionally, a connection to the Pinellas Trail was created to help children safely cross Ulmerton Road to attend Ridgecrest Elementary School.

The 119th Street connection to 16th Avenue SW provided an alternate access route and alleviated traffic flow problems from the increase of children and families attending Ridgecrest Elementary School and the YMCA. It also provided an alternate route in the event of emergencies.

Other improvements include new street lighting districts and a major renovation of the County's facility that houses the YMCA. The YMCA features a swimming pool, bath house and athletic field.



A host of community programs for home renovations, free paint and house number plaques make it possible for Greater Ridgecrest Area residents to beautify their neighborhood. There is also assistance available to construct new homes.

Community Development Block Grant funding was used to completely renovate the Ridgecrest Community Center building. Electrical upgrades, including new windows, plumbing and roof were part of the renovation. Interior and exterior improvements were made as well. The parcel next door was acquired to add a parking lot, and the Pinellas County Sheriff Substation is located in the Center along with *Meals on Wheels*.



Block grant funds were also used to renovate the YoungLife building. Improvements included a new roof, stucco and painting, landscaping and signage. New windows, plumbing and air-conditioning system were also added. An outdoor basketball court was added to provide a new teen activity.



Creating a Vision for the Community
Our goal while working with the community is to provide existing and future residents with a living environment that is racially and economically diverse while still preserving the neighborhood's history and sense of place. Additionally, devising a Land Use Plan to guide the development of the community is a continuing process.

Parks, Trails and Recreational Opportunities Abound

Pinellas County Government is making unincorporated neighborhoods more fun for families through grants to support team sports and other recreational activities. This is money spent strictly in the unincorporated communities so that families will have more opportunities to get out and enjoy their leisure time. To make it easier to enjoy the same programs as nearby neighbors who live in the cities, Pinellas County Park Department (464-3347), through the *Recreational Reimbursement Program*, can pay for the difference in fees charged by cities when unincorporated residents take part in municipal recreation programs.



A new neighborhood park in Dansville is in the planning stages. It will feature a fishing pier, benches, scenic landscaping, a playground and picnic tables.

Fire, Police and Emergency Medical Care That Are Unsurpassed

Greater Ridgecrest Area residents can feel safe in their homes knowing that the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (582-6200) is on the job patrolling area neighborhoods and is there whenever the need arises. Additionally, a Sheriff's Substation is located in the community center with community police officers who know the area and work with residents on identifying the community's needs. Should you have a medical emergency, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) help



comes from the closest available fire and ambulance units. One call to 9-1-1 sends a fire department rescue vehicle to your front door within four and a half minutes on average, and a Sunstar paramedic ambulance within ten minutes.

Fire response services in the Greater Ridgecrest Area are provided by a County contract with the Largo Fire Department. In the event of annexation, fire response would continue to be provided by the Largo Fire Department.

Countywide Libraries

Through your Pinellas Public Library Cooperative (441-8408), a library card is your passport to a world of books and library services. Residents can go to any library in the Cooperative and have complete access to a wonderful array of reading programs and other activities.

Clean Water Every Time You Turn on the Tap

Pinellas County provides water in unincorporated neighborhoods as well as many municipalities. When you drink Pinellas County's tap water, you're drinking clean, quality water. Pinellas County Utilities proudly reports that the water provided to their customers meets or exceeds all federal and state standards for safe drinking water. The County water system (464-4000) covers more than 1/2 of all county taps. County sewer lines reach 1/3 of all households. Part of the Dansville Phase 3 project includes installing new water lines that will improve the area's existing water quality.



All This for a Price that Compares Favorably to What Your City Neighbors Pay

For all these services, residents of unincorporated Pinellas County often pay less in taxes and fees than their neighbors within city limits. When thinking about annexation, it's important to know that other fees and charges, such as franchise fees, stormwater fees and utility taxes for electricity and gas, are often imposed by the annexing city. Additionally, those who have home businesses may be subject to restrictions and will most likely need occupational licenses.