



CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA

Gateway to the Gulf

MICHAEL J. YAKES, Mayor
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THOMAS E. BROBEIL, City Manager
LOUISE M. SPENCE, CMC, City Clerk
TIMOTHY P. DRISCOLL, City Attorney

<http://www.ci.gulfport.fl.us>

April 6, 2005

Elithia V. Stanfield
Assistant County Administrator
Pinellas County Government
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Re: MGT Study

Dear Ms. Stanfield:

Thank you for your inquiry of March 25, 2005, whereby you requested that the City of Gulfport provide input on the scope of services for a study being commissioned by the County Charter Review Committee.


In your e-mail you described this study as a "County Efficiency Study." After having read the scope of services, however, it appears that the study, in actuality, is an expansion of the 1992 study completed by MGT; which proposed functional consolidation of selected services under Pinellas County government. This process later resulted in proposals for an unlimited home rule charter that would have made our municipalities subordinate to the Board of County Commissioners.

While we applaud your efforts to make Pinellas County Government more efficient, we respectfully request that you confine your study to service areas where the County presently has jurisdiction, without presuming any transfer of authority from the municipalities to the County. It is our desire that the home rule powers of the cities continue to be respected. We believe that the people of Gulfport should continue to govern the kinds of services delivered to our residents and manner in which they are provided – rather than persons living in unincorporated areas or other cities.

We stand ready to explore any areas of mutual benefit that may be voluntarily agreed upon by Pinellas County and the City of Gulfport. You may, however, expect that we shall continue to defend our remaining home rule powers by all appropriate means.

Sincerely,

CITY OF GULFPORT


Michael J. Yakes
Mayor

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