



**PINELLAS COUNTY  
YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Innovation for the Young Mind

# Local Government



[www.pinellascounty.org](http://www.pinellascounty.org)



# PINELLAS COUNTY YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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## Structure of Government:

Federal, State and Local Government. Separate powers & jurisdictions.

Local Government is the lowest tier of administration.

67 counties within Florida.

Pinellas County is most densely populated county in the State with almost 1 million residents. County seat is Clearwater.

24 cities/municipalities within Pinellas County.

If property is not within a city limit, then it is in unincorporated area, and within the BCC jurisdiction. Services for unincorporated residents are provided by the county. Some services for cities residents are also provided by the county.

Each government decides what services to provide and how to do it. They also decide as a body how much taxes or millage rate to set.





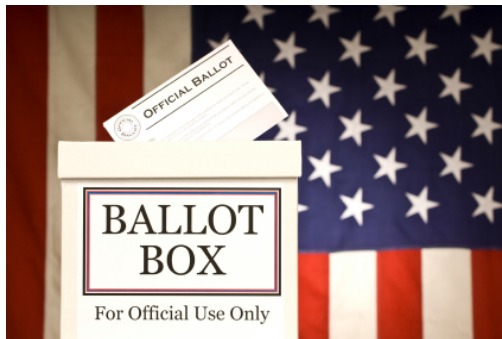
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Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners has 7 elected commissioners with staggered 4-year terms.

3 at large districts and 4 single member districts

Home Rule Charter: Pinellas County became a charter county in 1980 when the charter was approved by the voters. Every 8 years, a Charter Review Commission is established to make amendments to the charter for voters to decide. Some recent examples are: countywide mosquito control programs, water & navigation programs, and annexation procedures.





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## Myths:

- State Government tells the county what to do.
- County government tells the cities what to do.
- School Board falls under the County government.
- Court system and the Jail fall under the County jurisdiction.



## Truths:

- These are separate governing bodies, and not all 1 entity.
- The BCC approves policy, and the BCC has a County Administrator who implements the policies. There are departments under the County Administrator to support those functions.
- The School Board members, Judges, Sheriff, Clerk, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections, State Attorney and Public Defender are all elected officers, and serve at the will of the people. These are called Constitutional Officers.





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## Boards & Committees

TBRPC MPOBTS  
CJIS JWB TDC  
PSTA AAA  
YAC VAB TBARTA



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## BCC MEETINGS:

Encourage you to watch the BCC meetings,  
or attend if your schedules permit.

Spectrum = Channel 637

Frontier = Channel 44

WOW! = 18

Streamlining, either LIVE or ARCHIVES

[www.pinellascounty.org/tv](http://www.pinellascounty.org/tv)





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## Contact:

Commissioner Pat Gerard

[pgerard@pinellascounty.org](mailto:pgerard@pinellascounty.org)

Whitney Creech

[wcreech@pinellascounty.org](mailto:wcreech@pinellascounty.org)

Office #: 464-3360

Alyssa Bowers

[abowers@pinellascounty.org](mailto:abowers@pinellascounty.org)

Office #: 582-2597

[www.pinellascounty.org](http://www.pinellascounty.org)

[www.pinellascounty.org/YAC](http://www.pinellascounty.org/YAC)



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