Hello Neighbors,

Wishing you a Happy Independence day from City Hall (or should I say our temporary location noted below).

This is a fantastic time of year for celebrating with friends and family. As we all know however, with any celebration comes a little chance of mishap. Let’s all work together to avoid as many potential accidents as possible so everyone we know and love can continue to enjoy these final dog days of summer. Water safety, safe handling of fireworks, staying hydrated and making sure wear your sunscreen are just a few ways to keep the party going right into August!

Enjoy this months newsletter and be sure to take a special note of the "Affordable Housing Roundtable : A Community Conversation" event coming up on July 9th! You won’t want to miss it!

Brandi

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**Affordable Housing Roundtable: A Community Conversation**

Join me, Representative Ben Diamond, and Senator Darryl Rouson along with a panel of community leaders to discuss affordable housing solutions for the future of St. Petersburg and our state! The public is welcome and encouraged to participate in
Panel members include:

Ken Rush, Habitat For Humanity
Jillian Bandes, St. Pete Chamber Housing, Land Use & Development Committee Vice Chair
Karl Nurse, Former Councilman and Grow Smarter Housing Workgroup Chair
Watson Haynes, Urban League
Scott MacDonald, St Petersburg Housing Policy Group Chair
Joe Farrell, Pinellas Realtor Organization
Brother John Muhammad, Lead Organizer New Deal for St Pete
Jaime Ross, Florida Housing Coalition

This will be a moderated discussion with questions and answers also taken from the public. Media is welcome.

**DATE:** Tuesday, July 9, 2019  
**Time:** 10:00 am to Noon  
**Location:** Sunshine Center Auditorium  
330 5th St N, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to RSVP. To access a shareable flyer click [HERE](#).

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**Business Spotlight: Tampa International Airport**

In late 2011, Tampa International Airport officials began updating the Master Plan for the Airport’s 3,300-acre campus. The final plan, approved in 2013, allows the Airport to accommodate up to 34 million passengers each year, and is divided into three distinct phases: Decongestion, enabling and expansion. It allows a “build as demand dictates” approach to growth, with phases based on passenger volume.

The first phase, which was substantially completed in 2018, helps decongest the curbsides, roads and Main Terminal.

Phase 2, which broke ground in 2019, includes a curbside expansion and 35-acre commercial development around the Rental Car Center. The commercial development area will feature an office building, convenience store with gas station, hotel, a commercial curb to accommodate transit and other ground transportation, and connections to regional trail networks. The curbside expansion includes 16 new express lanes exclusively for passengers without checked luggage.

Phase 3 includes the construction of a new Airside D with 16 gates capable of handling both domestic and international flights.

On June 6, the HCAA Board of Directors approved a contract allowing work to begin on Tampa International Airport’s 16 new express curbsides and other projects. The contract enables utility relocations, site development, roadway modifications as well as the demolition of the Blue side rental car building and pedestrian bridges. The $31.5 million contract is with Hensel Phelps Construction.

For additional information on the Master Plan and construction progress click [HERE](#).
Gateway Master Plan

Over the next 25 years, the Mid County / Gateway area of Pinellas will evolve into several distinct, sustainable and resilient, mixed-use districts that celebrate its regional geography and leverage its central location on Tampa Bay to retain and encourage job growth while providing new housing, services, and a host of amenities for employees, residents and visitors. Each district will include vibrant nodes that are connected to transit, with safe walkable and bikeable streets, trails and blueways. These new district centers will be connected to existing residential neighborhoods and support quality of life while promoting community health and contributing to a robust regional economy. Ensuring a place that residents and employees will desire to live, work and play today as well as into the future.

The Gateway Master Plan is about creating a vibrant, livable area that continues to attract jobs and includes multiple options to get to work and other destinations safely and conveniently.

Forward Pinellas has come up with some preliminary redevelopment strategies, which you can find on our website. Now we need your input! Help us refine our recommendations to better guide the area’s growth towards a more socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable future.

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK BY TAKING THE SURVEY HERE

For more information about the process: Chelsea Favero, AICP cfavero@forwardpinellas.org or 727.464.5644

The Cross-Bay Ferry

This spring the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council honored the Cross-Bay Ferry with their Future of the Region Award. The Future of the Region Award highlights projects and programs that exemplify regionalism, and recognizes outstanding achievements and contributions that benefit the regional community.

The Cross Bay Ferry project follows on a successful pilot undertaken by the Cities of St. Petersburg and Tampa, and the Counties of Pinellas and Hillsborough to demonstrate the viability of seasonal, passenger ferry service. Seasonal passenger ferry service began on November 1, 2018 and concluded on April 30, 2019.

Over 52,000 passengers used the ferry between November 2018 through April 2019.
Highest paid ridership occurred in March 2019 with 12,289 passengers.

Passengers participated in the following activities while at their destination according to ridership survey results. 80% dined, 37% went to museums, 31% shopped, 20% went to a sporting event, and nearly ¾ of survey respondents said they spent at least $25 per person at each destination, with 30% spending over $40 per person. Approximately 60% of survey respondents stated that their trip was induced by the transportation mode, and may not have taken place without the ferry service. Approximately 40% indicated that they used the ferry INSTEAD of their car to make a trip that was previously planned.

Talk about boosting our local economy! Thank you and Congratulations to Mayor Krisman and his amazing transportation team for making this such a success. We can't wait to ride it again in the future.

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St. Petersburg Primary Election
August 27, 2019

Voter Registration Deadline: July 29, 2019

The City of St. Petersburg will hold a primary election on August 27, 2019 to fill four district seats on City Council. District offices up for election are District 1, 3, 5, & 7.

Pursuant to the City of St. Petersburg Municipal Charter, Council Member races in the Primary are voted on by single-member district. In the Primary, only voters residing in Districts 1, 3, 5 and 7 may vote in their respective council district races.

For each Council Member contest, the names of the two candidates receiving the most votes will be placed on the November 5 Municipal General Election ballot to be voted at-large.

To see the District Map of St. Petersburg HERE

To see the complete list of primary candidates click HERE

For more information on the St. Petersburg election process click HERE

Early Voting: The municipality has chosen not to conduct early voting for this election as provided in Florida Statute 101.657(1)(e).

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Summer Safety

Summer is here and there is nothing better in St. Pete than spending a hot day in the water with family and friends. Families with small children know the dangers associated with any body of water especially when the
children don’t know how to swim.

Drowning is the leading cause of death in Florida for children ages 1–4. The number of children who drown each year in our state could fill 3–4 preschool classrooms. Florida had the highest rate of drowning fatalities and non-fatal hospitalizations in the U.S. last year.

For this reason it is important not only for parents but grandparents, friends, neighbors, older siblings, everyone to be mindful of open water areas and non-swimmers exploring the area.

We in St. Pete want to make sure every family is given the opportunity to learn about water safety and swimming for all ages. See below for helpful links on swim lessons and water safety.

Summer Swim Lesson Flyer HERE
Neighborhood Pool locations and schedules HERE

American Red Cross
Swimming Safety Tips HERE
Swimming Safely at the Beach HERE

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Public Meeting Relocation

On June 17, 2019 the City Council and Mayor's office temporarily relocated to the old Police Department building while City Hall receives some needed renovations.

Beginning in July until further notice ALL public meetings will be held at the Sunshine Center 330 5th St N. St. Pete, 33701

Publicly televised meetings will take place in the auditorium.

Parking will be available on site
Additional scheduling information will be available online at stpete.org/meetingschedule

St Petersburg City Council Annual Summer Break runs from June 17 to July 7, 2019
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