



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
3201 SCHERER DRIVE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716
WWW.PSTA.NET 727.540.1800 FAX 727.540.1913

**PUBLIC HEARING – FINAL MILLAGE RATE /
FINAL FY 2016 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET**

**AGENDA – SEPTEMBER 23, 2015; 6:00 PM
PSTA BOARD ROOM**

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | CHAIR BILL JONSON |
| 2. BOARD CHAIRPERSON INTRODUCTION | CHAIR BILL JONSON |
| 3. STAFF STATEMENT FOR RECORD | CEO BRAD MILLER |
| 4. FINAL FY 2016 MILLAGE RATE & FY 2016 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET | |
| A. Staff Presentation | BRAD MILLER/DEBBIE LEOUS |
| B. Public Comments on Millage Rate & Budget | LED BY CHAIR |
| C. Board Discussion | LED BY CHAIR |
| 5. ADOPTION OF FINAL FY 2016 MILLAGE RATE & FINAL FY 2016 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET | |
| A. Adopt Final Millage Rate Resolution | COUNSEL ALAN ZIMMET/
BOARD VOTE |
| B. Announce Percentage, If Any, By Which Rate Exceeds Rolled-Back Rate | CHAIR BILL JONSON |
| C. Adopt Final Budget Resolution | COUNSEL ALAN ZIMMET/
BOARD VOTE |
| 6. ADJOURNMENT | |

**NEXT PSTA BOARD MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015
AT 6:00 PM – **NOTE DATE AND TIME CHANGE****

Public Comment: Individuals wishing to make a presentation today are required to complete a public hearing speaker card. This card can be given to staff either at the start of the hearing or during the hearing. Speakers will be recognized in the order in which the comment cards are received. Public comment is limited to three minutes per individual speaker, unless additional time is granted. A group can designate a spokesperson by completing the appropriate form and presenting it to staff. The spokesperson can then speak on behalf of the group, addressing staff for three minutes for each member of the group present in the audience who waives his/her right to speak, up to a maximum of ten minutes. Presentations will be limited to only the subject for which the public hearing is being held. The public hearing will not be closed until all individuals so desiring have had an opportunity to make a presentation.

Public Comment - Guidelines: Upon recognition by the Chairperson, individuals addressing the Board shall approach the podium and give his/her name in an audible tone of voice. Each speaker shall not comment more than once on the same agenda item, at the same meeting, unless the Board grants an exception. All remarks should be addressed to the Board as a body, and not to any member thereof. No person other than members of the Board and the person having the floor shall be permitted to enter into any discussion. Questions shall not be asked to individual Board members except through the Chairperson. Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, or who shall become boisterous while addressing the Board, may be requested to leave the meeting and may be barred from further attendance at that meeting.

If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board of Directors with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, he/she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purposes, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

5: Adopt Final FY 2016 Millage & Final FY 2016 Operating Budget


Action: **A. Adopt Resolution #15-17: Fiscal Year 2016 Final Millage Rate for PSTA**
 C. Adopt Resolution #15-18: Fiscal Year 2016 Final Budget for PSTA

Staff Resource: Brad Miller, CEO
 Deborah Leous, Chief Financial Officer
 Michael Hanson, Director of Finance

Background:

- **Hearings** – PSTA is required to conduct two public hearings on the Fiscal Year 2016 millage levy and the Fiscal Year 2016 budget before the final millage and the final budget can be adopted. This is the second of these two hearings. The first hearing was on September 9, 2015, and the Board approved both tentative millage and tentative budget resolutions with a .7305 millage.
- **Truth In Millage (TRIM) Notice** – On July 22nd, the PSTA Board certified a .7500 proposed millage levy by a majority vote as authorized by the Florida Statute and PSTA staff appropriately submitted the millage rate to the Pinellas County Property Appraiser’s Office before the required August 4, 2015 deadline.
- **No Change to Tax Rate** – Staff is presenting the final millage resolution for adoption with the .7305 millage levy.
- **5.90% Increase above Rolled-Back** – As required by Section 200 of Title XIV of the Florida Statutes, PSTA will need to publicly announce and advertise the percentage increase that the final tax rate of 0.7305 is above the rolled-back rate which is computed to be 0.6898. This percentage increase is 5.90%.
- **Fiscal Year 2016 Budget** – Following multiple budget workshops over the previous four months, the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2016 was originally presented to the Planning Committee on June 19th, and to the PSTA Board on June 24th. It has been subsequently revised and revisions have been highlighted at the Planning and Board meetings in August. The revised and updated Fiscal Year 2016 budget summary is included with this report.
- **Public Advertisement** – A notice of proposed tax increase and budget summary was published in the Tampa Bay Times on September 20, 2015.

Attachments:

1. Resolution #15-17 and #15-18
2. Presentation of the FY 2016 Budget Summary
3. Summary of the Proposed Budget FY 2016
4. Public Comments Received



RESOLUTION #15-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY FIXING THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE TO BE LEVIED FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) has estimated the amount of money necessary to carry on its duties and obligations for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015, and ending September 30, 2016, and

WHEREAS, the estimated revenues to be received by the Authority during said period from ad valorem taxes and other sources, has been determined by PSTA; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida, PSTA has scheduled and/or held a public hearing on September 23, 2015 regarding the final millage rate to be levied for ad valorem revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. A final millage rate of .7305 mills per thousand dollars of assessed valuation against the property within the transit area, not exempt from taxation by law, is hereby adopted.
2. The millage rate is greater than the rolled-back millage rate of .6898 mills by 5.90%.
3. A copy of the resolution shall be forwarded to the Pinellas County Property Appraiser, Pinellas County Tax Collector and Florida Department of Revenue.
4. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

ATTEST:

PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Janet C. Long, Secretary-Treasurer

William C. Jonson, Chairperson

DATE: September 23, 2015

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Alan S. Zimmet, PSTA General Counsel

RESOLUTION #15-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 FOR CARRYING ON THE DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE AUTHORITY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) has estimated the amount of money necessary to carry on its duties and obligations for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015, and ending September 30, 2016, and

WHEREAS, the estimated revenues to be received by the Authority during said period from ad valorem taxes and other sources, has been determined by PSTA; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida, PSTA has scheduled and held a public hearing on September 23, 2015 regarding the final millage rate to be levied for ad valorem revenue and the final budget and

WHEREAS, PSTA has adopted a final millage rate of .7305 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The final budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016 on file at the offices of the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority is adopted as the final budget for the Authority.
2. A copy of this final resolution shall be forwarded to the Pinellas County Property Appraiser, Pinellas County Tax Collector and Florida Department of Revenue.
3. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

ATTEST:

PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Janet C. Long, Secretary-Treasurer

William C. Jonson, Chairperson

DATE: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Alan S. Zimmet, PSTA General Counsel

PRESENTATION OF THE FY 16 BUDGET SUMMARIES

PSTA is embarking on **the Path Forward** Strategic Plan set forth by the Board of PSTA that will help ensure that the Authority meets its mission of providing safe, affordable public transit to our community. With the **Path Forward**, PSTA will have the financial stability in the short term, with a sustainable operating and capital plan, and an emphasis on PSTA’s role in the community and its impact on economic development.

Fiscal Year 2015:

Fiscal Year 15	Revenues	Expenses	Surplus (Deficit)	From /(To) Reserve	Total
FY 2015 Adopted Budget	\$64,468,084	\$66,663,074	(\$2,194,990)	\$2,194,990	\$0
FY 2015 Budget Forecast	\$63,184,434	\$62,697,574	\$486,860	\$(486,860)	\$0

Fiscal Year 2016:

Fiscal Year 16	Revenues	Expenses	Surplus (Deficit)	From /(To) Reserve	Total
FY 2016 Proposed Budget	\$67,875,291	\$65,246,845	\$2,628,446	(\$2,628,446)	\$0

Major Assumptions

Outsourcing of Advertising	\$300,000	Revenue Increase
Service Redesign	(\$518,000)	Cost Savings
Fare Adjustments	\$1,054,000	Revenue Increase

Path Forward Initiatives



FOCUS ON CUSTOMER-ORIENTED TRANSIT SERVICES –The operating budget includes investment in customer service training for our operators along with benchmarking of the training impact on PSTA’s performance based on customer surveys. Two additional maintenance positions have been created to add to the bus cleaning staff.

The capital budget includes customer amenities, such as enhanced Wi-Fi service, bus shelters, passenger benches, bike racks and improved ADA accessibility at targeted locations.



DEVELOP A STRONG GOVERNANCE MODEL FOR EFFECTIVE PINELLAS TRANSPORTATION LEADERSHIP - State and federal lobbyists are budgeted for to assist in obtaining funding to for our legislative priorities that are in support of the Path Forward. In addition, during our workshops the

PSTA Board identified Board Governance training as a continuous improvement initiative that is included in the operating budget at \$50,000.



PROVIDE EFFECTIVE, FINANCIALLY VIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION THAT SUPPORTS OUR

COMMUNITY - The budget looks to increase revenue sources already available to PSTA with increased fares and a highly simplified fare structure. Increased revenues along with strategic cost control measures is allowing for a surplus in FY 2016 that will be set aside for capital projects, with PSTA's the top priority project being our bus replacement program.



SUSTAINABLE CAPITAL PROGRAM – For the bus replacement program staff will with

working with federal, state and community partners to advocate for capital funding. In the five year capital plan, PSTA will be dedicating, for the first time, local funds to purchase buses.



CUSTOMER ORIENTED SERVICE REDESIGN – Focusing resources where transit works best,

the budget includes route changes and service improvements based on a data-driven and customer sensitive approach. During the budget process and in the coming year we will engage the customers and the business community, both in public forums and on an individual basis to hear their concerns and suggestions.



INCREMENTAL EXPANSION - The budget includes \$200,000 for route enhancements to help

achieve increased ridership.



VISIONARY SERVICE DESIGN: INCREASED PUBLIC TRANSIT ACCESS- Planning grant funds will

support updating the Community Bus Plan as needed to address and embrace changes within the community. Developing new transit alternative partners will assist in making incremental progress towards the planed county-wide high frequency grid.

PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Summary of Proposed Budget
No Adjustment in Ad Valorem Tax Rate
FY 2016

Description	FY 2016 Proposed Operating Budget 6/19/2015	FY 2016 Proposed Operating Budget 9/9/2015	Change in Proposed Operating Budget
Operating Revenues	\$ 67,940,142	\$ 67,875,291	(64,851)
Operating Expenses	\$ 65,029,287	\$ 65,246,845	217,558
Surplus / (Deficit)	\$ 2,910,855	\$ 2,628,446	-282,409
Contribution to Capital Reserves	\$ (2,910,855)	\$ (2,628,446)	-282,409
Contributing Factors to the Improvement			Savings/(Additional Costs)
Revised Fuel Average Price of \$1.88 down from \$2.40		\$ 1,249,210	
No Adjustment in Ad Valorem Tax Rate			(1,009,260)
Deferred Route Service Changes			(412,000)
Miscellaneous			(110,359)
Total Changes to the Proposed Budget			\$ (282,409)

MAJOR ASSUMPTIONS INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET

Outsourcing of Advertising	\$ 300,000	Revenue Increase	APPROVED
Service Redesign-Revised	(518,000)	Cost Savings	APPROVED
Fare Adjustments	1,054,000	Revenue Increase	APPROVED
Ad Valorem Tax Rate at .75 Cap	1,009,260	Revenue Increase	DECISION 9/23/2015

**COMMENTS RECEIVED BY PUBLIC
CONCERNING
BUDGET/MILLAGE
SEPTEMBER 2015**

DATE	CONTACT (letter, e-mail, phone, or fax)	NAME/ADDRESS	COMMENT
8-28	email	Hubert Bussey	Had questions about why PSTA is proposing to increase millage and what it's going to be used for.