



**CALVIN D. HARRIS**  
CHAIRMAN

# PINELLAS COUNTY

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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November 19, 2008

Mayor Rick Baker  
Council President Jamie Bennett  
Members of the St. Petersburg City Council  
175 5<sup>th</sup> Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Dear Mayor Baker et al,

At its November 18, 2008, Board of County Commissioners meeting, the Commission officially received the City's report on the proposed annexation of properties on the north end of the Tierra Verde community. The Board reviewed the fact that you have under consideration at the upcoming November 21, 2008, City Council meeting an ordinance for annexation of these parcels, with public hearings having been held on November 6 and November 17, 2008.

At those hearings, concerns with this proposed annexation as documented in a letter from the County's Planning Director, Brian Smith, were filed and presented to the City Council. That letter documents a number of both legal issues and community issues with the proposal. In addition, Pinellas County has negotiations underway with the County's municipalities under Part II of Chapter 171 of Florida Statutes, defining how annexation should occur.

For these reasons, the County Commission recommends that the City Council not take action at this time on this proposed annexation. We believe it to be a more reasonable posture for the city to allow for the deliberations that are currently taking place among the Cities and the County concerning annexation. We would hope that, through that process, some reasonable conclusions could be drawn that would apply to annexation throughout the County.

Our Board believes this is an extremely important policy issue and we strongly urge that you make such a determination at your November 21st Council meeting.

Yours truly,

Calvin D. Harris  
Chairman  
Pinellas County Commission

cc: Members of the Board of County Commissioners  
Robert S. LaSala, County Administrator  
Peter J. Yauch, P.E., Director of Public Works and Transportation  
Brian Smith, Director of Planning

