

The Chamber Building 100 Second Ave. N., Suite 150 St. Petersburg, FL 33701 (727) 821-4069 stpete.com

June 14, 2022

Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners 315 Court Street #501 Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Commissioners,

As President and CEO of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce, I write to you today to express my support for the return of the Cross Bay Ferry and continued partnership between all parties including Hillsborough County, City of Tampa, Pinellas County and City of St. Petersburg.

The recently announced framework allows both of our county parties to remain engaged while our region moves forward with this project.

The Ferry is a huge success and provided a great economic impact to Pinellas County during its operation. The ferry keeps cars off our roadways and provides a fun, safe, and unique experience that delivers day-trippers to our local businesses and gives our residents alternative means to attend Lightning games and concerts in Tampa without the need to drive or find parking. The long-term goal of the ferry service is to provide options for commuters which would take an additional burden off the roadways.

The Chamber stands with the City of St. Petersburg in asking the BOCC to provide the modest subsidy necessary to bring the Cross Bay Ferry back this year. As always, I thank you for your leadership of our great county and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Chris Steinocher
President and CFO

The St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce shall be the preeminent leader of business in order to ensure the economic growth and vitality of our community.