



AGENDA

SCHOOL PLANNING WORK GROUP

Meeting Location - Swisher Building

509 East Avenue S., Clearwater

January 31, 2006, at 1:30pm

Welcome and Introductions

Overview of SB360 Requirements and Timelines, including:

- *Interlocal Agreement*
- *School Concurrency*
- *Public School Facilities Element*
- *Amendments to Capital Improvements Element and Intergovernmental Coordination Element*

Purpose of the Work Group

Tackling the Interlocal Agreement First, including:

- *Deciding what parts of the existing agreement are probably adequate*
- *Deciding what parts can be readily updated*
- *Deciding what parts will take more work, including.....*

Level of Service Standards and Service Areas – Initial Discussion

Review the Interlocal Agreement Timeline and Determine
Tasks/Assignments for Next Meeting

Next Meeting?



MINUTES

SCHOOL PLANNING WORK GROUP

Swisher Building - 509 East Avenue S., Clearwater

January 31, 2006, at 1:30pm

Welcome and Introductions:

Gordon Beardslee welcomed everyone to the School Planning Work Group, asked everyone to sign the sign-in sheet, and then introductions were made around the table.

Overview of SB360 Requirements and Timelines, including:

- *Interlocal Agreement*
- *School Concurrency*
- *Public School Facilities Element*
- *Amendments to Capital Improvements Element and Intergovernmental Coordination Element*

1906 Committee has representatives (elected officials) from local jurisdictions and the School Board, and they worked together to develop the original Interlocal Agreement in 2003 that was developed between the School Board and all of the local governments, including the County and the municipalities, that were required to enter into the Interlocal Agreement

In 2005, the State legislature amended the Growth Management Act and is requiring practically all the counties and municipalities to establish school concurrency and a public school facilities element that has to be incorporated as part of the local comprehensive plan. The School Board and the County decided to participate in the early Interlocal Agreement (ILA) update process and the DCA has approved us participating in that process. Most of the local governments in Pinellas County have to participate in school concurrency and adopt a public schools facility element. We are going to have to work together to come up with a school concurrency process applied countywide and the public school facility elements that we have to adopt must be consistent with each other. So if all the municipalities, the School Board and the County work together, we can come up with one concurrency process and one element that local governments can adopt in their local comprehensive plans.

The timeframe for the ILA update:

- ◆ March 1, 2006- Update 1906 Committee on School Planning Work Group progress
- ◆ May 3rd – present first draft of ILA to 1906 Committee*
- ◆ By June 9th - Submit a draft to DCA
- ◆ July - Finalize the ILA and transmit to local governments and School Bd. for adoption.
- ◆ August - Execute ILA with all the local governments required to participate and the School Bd.

◆ September 1, 2006 – Submit final executed updated Interlocal Agreement

* Need to work together to get the modifications to the ILA at the staff level – coming up with specific proposals, taking it to the 1906 Committee for their review and feedback, then go back and modify it based on their feedback.

Other major item to be done is amending our Capital Improvements Element and Intergovernmental Coordination Element as part of our update of the Comprehensive Plan to incorporate the statutory requirements pertaining to public school facility planning and concurrency development. This would occur after the ILA has been adopted.

Discussion followed regarding the current ILA that is in place, and how it is being implemented by the local governments.

School Board staff are requesting that each municipality submit only an overview of site plans under review and not the entire plan. Include contact people, size of project, number of units, the cost of units (if you know it), and various things like that on a spreadsheet. Then the School Board staff would go to the local government for additional information if it's needed – this is on projects of over 50 units. If a site plan deals with less than 50 units, the School Board doesn't really need to know about it. They will bring the "necessary information" request to the next meeting.

The 1906 Committee may need to follow up on the further dissemination of information on a regular basis to remind local governments and the School Board of the ILA requirements.

Purpose of the Work Group

The 1906 Committee will provide direction and feedback to the Work Group, but the mechanics/specifics of school concurrency, the drafting of policies, and the background information for the Public School Facilities Element will be done at the staff level. The Work Group will come together and work on the specifics associated with developing the specific changes of the ILA, the concurrency system, and the public school facilities element itself.

There may be a smaller part of this group that could meet between the meetings of the entire work group and come up with proposals that could be sent out to the members for review prior to the full work group meeting to discuss and take action on the proposal. For example, on concurrency, there are very specific things that State law requires us to develop – LOS standards, how to handle some mitigation requirements, defining geographic service areas, etc. So establishing a smaller group to work on these specifics between the full work group meetings might work well. The work group can then present their recommendations to the 1906 Committee for review and feedback.

DCA has selected six local governments as their pilot communities to develop draft agreements and work through issues associated with school concurrency. Once these drafts are completed, these examples can be used as a "road map" in developing our updated ILA. Pinellas is different from most counties because we do not have a large student population increase – we are actually experiencing a slight decrease in student enrolment. Four of the last five years, we have lost student population – The Florida Department of Education is projecting another slight decrease next year and the year after that. No new schools are recommended because of student growth at this time. We have new schools being built but they are replacement schools, or major additions, etc. We are in a different scenario than most counties. Since we have to develop and implement school concurrency, the School Board Attorney, Jim Robinson, has had some experience with DCA (as counsel for DCA) so he can give us some insight into how they have worked in the past and lead us on a way that we can

interpret the legislation and then make it as simple for us as possible. It's all coordination, that's the issue ... how do you do it so that – if there is development – concurrency doesn't leave the school district hanging with an unanticipated requirement or a need to build schools.

How will School Choice affect this process? While Pinellas is not the only county with school choice, we are unique in our approach. If we go through this and look at the LOS standard and the approach to concurrency, we may find that it makes sense to keep it at the district level and not break it down. Within five years, the current law would require that concurrency be applied at a sub-district level. If we conclude as we go through this process that we keep it district-wide as opposed to sub-district, we could request an amendment or change to the law.

NOTE: Whatever or however this is tailored, do not hinge it on the current way the School District is doing business in terms of student assignments because the likelihood is that there are going to be some substantial changes within about two or three years. We could return to zoned-neighborhood schools.

Tackling the Interlocal Agreement First, including:

- *Deciding what parts of the existing agreement are probably adequate*
- *Deciding what parts can be readily updated*
- *Deciding what parts will take more work, including.....*

Level of Service (LOS) Standards and Service Areas – Initial Discussion

The Work Group reviewed the **Requirements of Subsection 163.3180(13)(g)** handout. Items 1, 2, 4 and 7 should take little effort to incorporate into the existing ILA. Items 3, 5, 6 and 8 will require most of our effort in updating the ILA.

Item 1 – We could use the 1906 Committee structure and this work group as the mechanisms to do that.

Item 2 – We developed siting criteria in great detail back in 1995-96. All the local governments with schools have these criteria and associated polices in their comprehensive plans. The County and the School Board staffs have reviewed these and think they are still fine. Local governments may have some suggestions for modification, but we think they are in pretty good shape – only minor modifications may be necessary.

Item 4 – We have a process in the current ILA for providing local government comments and recommendations on the annual update of the district facilities five-year work program. DCA has indicated that this should be adequate. The section we will need to focus on is the process and schedule for incorporation of the new capital improvement of public school element into the local comp plan ... which should not take much time or effort by this group to do that.

Item 7 – There is already a section in the current ILA that deals with this that is adequate – so this item will not require much effort to update.

Most of the Work Group's effort will focus on the following four items:

Item 3 – LOS Standard for elementary schools, one for middle schools, and another for high schools and a process to modify your adopted LOS Standard. This is something we will need to develop. (What is a LOS Standard? [See handout **Notes on Public School Capacity**] Broward and Palm

Beach Counties base their LOSS on Florida Inventory of School Houses capacity with the utilization rate. A lengthy discussion followed.

Item 5 – The statutes recommend that a community start out District-wide, but then after five years, you are to do it at a sub-district level. We need to define the sub-district level that we would be transitioning to after five years. Would that require some modifications of LOS Standards?

Item 6 – The procedure used for implementing school concurrency must be uniform – so whatever procedure we come up with, would be the same for all local governments – making it uniform.

Item 8 – DCA has hired a consultant who is supposed to be coming up with some recommendations on proportionate-share mitigation. County staff will find out what the schedule for completion is. (The six pilot local governments are supposed to have draft ILAs ready by the first week in March. Not certain at this point what the timeframe is for proportionate-share mitigation – it may be the same timeframe so perhaps information will be available by early March.) The process and methodology for using proportionate-share mitigation must be in the ILA.

These four areas are the ones the Work Group will concentrate on and pass to the 1906 Committee for their review and input. Since the 1906 Committee is comprised of elected officials, they can present the final update to the ILA to their local governments for approval. (Does each local government have a representative on that committee? We will get the “membership” of that committee and their attendance records and send to each member of this committee.)

Discussion followed on FISH capacity (see **Notes on Public School Capacity** handout). Pinellas County will be required to build additional classrooms to be in compliance with Teacher-Pupil Ratios (TPR). Must be in compliance by 2010.

Discussion followed regarding:

- ◆ Start with a sub-district LOS standard instead of district-wide and updating in the future?
- ◆ Start with type of school LOS Standard instead of district-wide or other type of sub-district?
- ◆ This committee should look at both and come up with some sound rational whichever way we go.
- ◆ How does School Board establish school size with the Choice program?
- ◆ School Choice ends in 2007.
- ◆ Learning process for all of us – must be able to comply with whatever we decide.
- ◆ Must be careful not to impede on the School Board but meet DCA requirements
- ◆ How do we do it, what is the process, how it's developed and how it will relate to School Board
- ◆ Don't forget *Pinellas By Design*
- ◆ School Policy versus School Capacity
- ◆ Is DCA looking at transportation as a part of this LOS Standard?
- ◆ Is transportation tied to FISH? No, FISH is tied strictly to capacity

Review the Interlocal Agreement Timeline and Determine Tasks/Assignments for Next Meeting

School Board was asked to put together a list of things that would work for the School Board and then disseminate it and we could react to that. That's how the last one worked. Will have recommendations on level of service standards and service areas for next meeting of this group.

For the next meeting, let's focus on Items 3 and 5 - coming up with a proposed LOS Standard and the geographic application of school concurrency. School Board staff will get together and come up with recommendations.

Committee wants (ASAP):

- ◆ Emails of all members of this committee
- ◆ 1906 Committee members and attendance report

Next Meeting

After discussion, it was decided we would meet on Tuesday, February 28 at 1:30 p.m. We will try to get this room and we will let you know.