

**Business Impact Estimate (see F.S. § 125.66(3)(a))**

**For:**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF PINELLAS RELATING TO VESSEL ANCHORING; PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO ANCHORING LIMITATION AREAS PURSUANT TO F.S. § 327.4108 OVER (1) PART OF MANDALAY CHANNEL IN THE CITY OF CLEARWATER AND (2) IMMEDIATELY SOUTHEAST OF BELLEAIR CAUSEWAY IN UNINCORPORATED COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AREAS EMBRACED; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance is scheduled to be considered for adoption by the Pinellas County Commission on Tuesday October 17, 2023 at 9:30AM in the Palm Room of the County Communications Department Building, located at 333 Chestnut Street, Clearwater, FL 33756.

*\* Unless an attachment is expressly referenced, the content in this Form encompasses the entire Business Impact Estimate for this Ordinance.*

**1. Summary of the Ordinance, including a statement of the public purpose to be served by the Ordinance, such as serving the public health, safety, morals, and welfare of the County:** This Ordinance creates two “Anchoring Limitation Areas” (the “ALAs”) as provided for by F.S. § 327.4108(2)(a): one ~92-acre area in incorporated Clearwater within Mandalay Channel and one ~39-acre area in unincorporated County to the immediate southeast of Belleair Causeway. Pursuant to F.S. § 327.4108(2)(b), a vessel may not anchor for more than 45 consecutive days within a 6-month period within either ALA unless an exemption under F.S. §§ 327.4108(4), (5) applies. The ALAs implicitly target stored vessels and live-aboard vessels – which may be at risk of becoming derelict – that cluster in these areas. Incentivizing such vessels to leave these areas will further the public safety and welfare by combating the navigational, aesthetic, and environmental concerns posed by such vessels.

**2. An estimate of the direct economic impact of the Ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in the County, including the following, if any:**

(a) An estimate of direct compliance costs that businesses may reasonably incur if the Ordinance is enacted; Estimated direct compliance costs are zero dollars.

(b) Identification of any new charge or fee on businesses subject to the Ordinance for which businesses will be financially responsible; No new charges or fees are implicated.

(c) An estimate of the County's regulatory costs, including estimated revenues from any new charges or fees that will be imposed on businesses to cover such costs. For the Clearwater ALA, estimated costs associated with permitting and installing requisite markers (signs, buoys) are ~\$25K; estimated costs associated with maintaining said markers are \$500-\$1,500/year. For the Unincorporated ALA, estimated costs associated with permitting and installing requisite markers are ~\$8,750; estimated costs associated with maintaining said markers are \$1K/year. Any increased direct costs tied to monitoring/enforcement are negligible, as both ALAs are already routinely patrolled by law enforcement. Furthermore, given the generous 45-consecutive-day requirement and ample exemptions afforded by F.S. § 327.4108, a relatively low number of citations (i.e. violations) are anticipated.

**3. A good faith estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the Proposed Ordinance:** County Staff (Staff) identified zero businesses that could be negatively impacted by the Ordinance. However, Staff identified three types of business that could be positively impacted by the Ordinance: marine contractors that remove vessels from open water (or salvage them); towing companies that transport removed vessels across dry land to impound facilities; and impound facilities that hold removed vessels. Staff estimates that ~10 marine contractors, ~95 towing companies, and ~60 impound facilities could generate business from the Ordinance.

**4. Any additional information the BCC deems useful:** No additional information is deemed useful for purposes of this Business Impact Estimate. Interested parties are encouraged to review the Ordinance and F.S. § 327.4108 for more insight concerning the ALAs.