



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 23-0271A, **Version:** 1

Agenda Date: 3/28/2023

Subject:

Resolution authorizing continuation of a \$4.50 Passenger Facility Charge at the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

Recommended Action:

Adopt a resolution authorizing St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) to submit Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Application #7 to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to allow continued collection of the PFC fees to fund FAA approved projects. In addition, obtain Chairman's signature on the PFC Application when the FAA indicates the application is substantially complete.

- The total PFC revenue to be collected in the new application, through November 1, 2026, is \$13.653M. Funding supports projects such as the construction of a new taxiway "N" that will mitigate potential runway incursions; additional funding for apron construction and construction of new taxiways "C" and "A4" due to the high bids received; a portion of the design services cost of the upcoming terminal expansion and improvements project; and the acquisition of a new airfield sweeper.
- The FAA's PFC program allows the collection of PFC fees up to \$4.50 for every enplaned passenger at commercial service airports to fund FAA approved projects that enhance safety, security, or capacity.
- Submitting a new PFC application will ensure that PIE can continue imposing a \$4.50 PFC on each enplanement and can continue collection to fund FAA eligible improvements to PIE's terminal and airfield.
- The draft resolution and the application form must be approved and signed by the Chairman before the application is submitted to the FAA.

Strategic Plan:

Foster Continual Economic Growth & Vitality

4.4 Invest in infrastructure to meet current and future needs

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

Summary:

Submitting a new PFC application will ensure that PIE can continue imposing a \$4.50 PFC on each enplanement and can continue collection to fund PFC eligible improvements to PIE's terminal and airfield.

PIE has been collecting PFCs since its first application was approved by the FAA in 2008.

Background Information:

The FAA's PFC program allows the collection of PFC fees up to \$4.50 for every enplaned passenger at commercial airports controlled by public agencies. PFCs are capped at \$4.50 per flight segment. Airports use these fees to fund FAA approved projects that enhance safety, security, or capacity.

PIE keeps \$4.39 of the revenue collected; the remaining \$0.11 is retained by the airlines for administrative costs.

This resolution authorizes PIE to submit its' seventh application to the FAA to continue collecting PFCs for the FAA-approved projects mentioned above. Construction and delivery of these items must begin within two years from the application's effective date.

On September 16, 2008, the Board of County Commissioners approved Resolution 08-151 which authorized PIE to submit its first application to the FAA for the imposition and collection of a new PFC fee in the initial amount of \$2.6M to fund eligible improvements to the airfield and terminal. The PFC Application was approved by the FAA on December 19, 2008.

Since the initial PFC Application was approved by the FAA, there have been six applications for eligible projects of similar nature. It usually takes between six to nine months for the FAA to review and approve a PFC application.

PFC applications are collection amount driven, not time driven. We have approximately \$200K left in collections from Application #6. This means that another PFC application must be submitted immediately to avoid the cessation of collections by the FAA. Because of the record-breaking passenger traffic we have experienced in the past year, the collection pace has been much faster than anticipated.

Fiscal Impact:

The total PFC revenue to be collected in the new application is \$13,653,528.00. The expiration date for this application is anticipated on or about November 1, 2026, based upon historical collections. When the application and projects are approved by the FAA in the next few months, the funding sources for the approved projects will be adjusted or programmed in our CIP during the budget development process to reflect the PFC revenue.

Staff Member Responsible:

Thomas R. Jewsbury, Director, St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport

Partners:

FAA

Attachments:

Resolution

PFC Application Form (Form #5500)

Proposed Project Descriptions

Executed Amended PFC Application Form #6

RESOLUTION NO. 23- 16

A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY,
FLORIDA AUTHORIZING CONTINUATION OF A
\$4.50 PASSENGER FACILITY CHARGE AT THE ST.
PETE-CLEARWATER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

WHEREAS, a Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) as authorized by Federal Law is imposed only on applicable enplaned Airport passengers and;

WHEREAS, a PFC can be used to fund Airport capital projects and;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County, Florida has previously imposed a \$4.50 PFC which was used to fund specifically designated capital projects and;

WHEREAS, the previously imposed \$4.50 PFC charge has been used for those designated capital projects and;

WHEREAS, the continuation of a PFC in the amount of \$4.50 is necessary to accomplish new capital projects designed to preserve and enhance capacity, safety, and development of the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, at a duly-assembled meeting held on the 28th day of March, 2023, as follows:

SECTION 1. That the County Administrator is authorized to file a new application and amend, as necessary, any open applications with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), authorizing the continuation of the imposition of a PFC at the \$4.50 level, and the expenditure of revenues from the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport, in accordance with the Capital Improvement Program, and the assurances and understandings contained in the application.

SECTION 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption. Commissioner Peters offered the foregoing Resolution and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner Justice, and upon roll call, the vote was:

Aye: Long, Peters, Eggers, Justice, Latvala, and Scott.

Nays: None.

Absent and not voting: Flowers.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: Michael A. Zas
Office of the County Attorney



PASSENGER FACILITY CHARGE (PFC) APPLICATION

1. Application Type (Check all that apply)

- ☒ a. Impose PFC Charges
☒ b. Use PFC Revenue
☐ c. Amend PFC No.

FAA USE ONLY

Date Received:
PFC Number:

PART I - General

2. Public Agency Name, Address, and Contact Person

Agency Name: Pinellas County
Address: 14700 Terminal Blvd, Ste 221
City, State, ZIP: Clearwater, FL 33762
Contact Person: Yvette Aehle, Deputy Director - Finance & Ad

3. Airport(s) to Use

St. Pete-Clearwater
International Airport (PIE)

4. Consultation Dates

- a. Date of Written Notice to Air Carriers: 02/13/2023
b. Date of Consultation Meeting with Air Carriers: 03/17/2023
c. Date of Public Notice: 02/14/2023

PART II - Charges

5. Charges

a. Airport to Impose: St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE)	b. Level ☐ \$1.00 ☐ \$2.00 ☐ \$3.00 ☐ \$4.00 ☒ \$4.50	c. Total Estimated PFC Revenue Impose: \$ 13,653,528 Use: \$ 11,566,985	d. Proposed Effective Date: 06/01/2023	e. Estimated Expiration Date: 11/01/2026
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PART III - Attachments

6. Attachments (Check all that Apply)

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|---|--|------------------------------------|
| a. Airport Capital Improvement Plan | ☒ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |
| b. Application Project Information | ☐ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |
| c. Air Carrier Consultation and Public Notice Information | ☒ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |
| d. Request to Exclude Class(es) of Carriers | ☒ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |
| e. Alternative Uses/Projects | ☒ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |
| f. Competition Plan/Update | ☐ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |
| g. ALP/Airspace/Environmental | ☐ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |
| h. Notice of Intent Project Information | ☒ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |
| i. Other: Additional Information | ☒ Attached | Submitted with Application Number: |

PART IV - Certification

7. With respect to this PFC application I hereby certify as follows:

- To the best of my knowledge and belief, all data in this application are true and correct;
- This application has been duly authorized by the governing body of the public agency;
- The public agency will comply with the assurances (Appendix A to Part 158) if the application is approved;
- For those projects for which approval to use PFC revenue is requested, all applicable ALP approvals, airspace determinations, and environmental reviews required by the National Environmental Policy Act have been completed.
- If required, the public agency has submitted a competition plan in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 47106(f); and
- If required by 49 U.S.C. 40117(d)(4), adequate provision for financing the airside needs, including runways, taxiways, aprons, and gates, has been made by the public agency.

a. Name of Authorized Representative Janet C. Long	b. Title Pinellas Cty Board of County Commissioners, Chair	c. Telephone Number (727) 464-3365
d. E-mail Address JanetCLong@pinellas.gov		

Please read the following information: By signing this document, you are agreeing that you have reviewed the following disclosure information and consent to transact business using electronic communications, to receive notices and disclosures electronically, and to utilize electronic signatures in lieu of using paper documents. You are not required to receive notices and disclosures or sign documents electronically. If you prefer not to do so, you may request to receive paper copies and withdraw your consent at any time.

e. Signature of Authorized Representative



Janet C. Long

f. Date Signed
3/28/2023

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK
By: *[Signature]*