

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Meeting Date: August 31, 2021

Department: Office of Resilience

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Title: Property Assessed Clean Energy Program Update

Summary: At the September 10, 2019, Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting, the BCC requested a workshop item to review the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program operating in Palm Beach County. At the October 8, 2019, BCC meeting, the BCC directed staff to postpone the workshop until after the 2020 Legislative Session, as there were several relevant PACE-related bills introduced. None passed, so the BCC directed staff to proceed with a workshop. On June 23, 2020, the Office of Resilience (OOR) presented to the BCC on PACE financing in Palm Beach County; the County Constitutional Tax Collector and PACE representatives also participated. At that workshop, the BCC directed staff to work with PACE industry representatives to identify voluntary practices for improving County consumer protections. Since the workshop, OOR has worked with industry representatives to explore program adjustments and discuss potential ordinance amendments that could improve the PACE program. Meanwhile, legislation that could have expanded the types of PACE qualifying projects and increased consumer protection was introduced but failed to pass in the 2021 Florida Legislative Session. Based on prior direction to update the BCC on PACE program progress, OOR will discuss the PACE program and get further BCC direction on whether to pursue additional consumer protection provisions and a County administrative fee.

Background and Policy Issues: Section 163.08, Florida Statutes, authorizes local governments to create PACE programs that fund energy efficiency, renewable energy, and wind resistance improvements for residential and commercial properties. In 2017, the BCC established a PACE program in the County, which is applicable within unincorporated areas of the County and within all municipalities that have not adopted their own PACE ordinance or resolution. With PACE, property owners within a participating district can finance a qualified project through a voluntary non-ad valorem assessment on their annual property tax bill. Failure to pay the PACE assessment may result in the loss of property subject to the PACE assessment, similar to failing to pay one's property taxes. More than 6,600 PACE projects have been completed in the County. Countywide (SS)

Attachments:
None

Recommended by: Megan S Houston 7-27-21
Department Director **Date**

Approved by: Paul 8/6/21
Assistant County Administrator **Date**

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	0	0	0	0	0
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes _____ No X

Does this Item include the use of Federal Funds? Yes _____ No X

Budget Account No.:
Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____ Object _____ Program _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:
There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

C. Department Fiscal Review:

S. Murray

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and /or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

Luz M. 8/2/21
OFMB 8-2-21
for review Jackson 8/2/21

Joe J. 8/6/21
Contract Development and Control
9-7-21 TW

B. Legal Sufficiency:

for S. Stone
8/11/21
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director