

## Suggestion for reform

Private appraiser Greg Johnson hand-delivered a letter suggesting reforms to Pinellas County government to County Commission Chairman Ronnie Duncan on Aug. 17. Duncan didn't send that letter to other commissioners. He said he made a note to have the matter referred to County Administrator Steve Spratt, but Spratt and his staff said they didn't see the letter until the *Times* started asking about it.

8/17  
Sent to SMS for response  
RJR

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July 31, 2007

Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners  
Honorable Ronnie L. Duncan, Chairman  
315 Court Street  
Clearwater, FL 33762

**RECEIVED**

AUG 17 2007

RONNIE E. DUNCAN  
COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Re: Organization Structure and Real Estate Services

Dear Mr. Duncan:

Having served Pinellas County as a professional real estate appraisal and consulting service vendor for the past 20 years, I have had a unique opportunity into the working structure of the Pinellas County Real Estate Division

I hope Pinellas County Government will undertake voluntary review of its current organization structure and look closely at the relationship process in considering possible alternatives. Clearly, the PCRED should be placed closer to its functional parent, the County Attorney's Office.

For the sake of improved public service, I hope this can be accomplished in the

We recommend that the County review the placement of the County Real Estate Division within the County's organizational structure. Currently it is within the Public Works Department which is necessarily involved in significant real estate purchases. Moving it to another department would create independence and avoid potential conflicts.

We recommend that a copy of this presentment be provided to

▲ On page 5 of his letter, Johnson recommends re-organizing the county's real estate operations.

◀ On page 20 of its presentment, which became public on Aug. 28, the grand jury recommended the same thing.