

TEMPLATE FOR 3 MINUTE SPEECH (400 words max), EMAIL, OR LETTER. Remove LWVSPA LOGO.

For Email, send to cynthia.sheppard@stpete.org and ask her to distribute to all of the council members, or call and leave a message: 727-893-7118. You could also send it to all of them individually and place each of their emails in your address and copy Ms. Sheppard: copley.gerdes@stpete.org; brandi.gabbard@stpete.org; ed.montanari@stpete.org; lisset.hanewicz@stpete.org; deborah.figgs-sanders@stpete.org; gina.driscoll@stpete.org; John.Muhammad@stpete.org; richie.floyd@stpete.org. For speech, read aloud

INCLUDE PHRASE: *Please enter into the public record and distribute to all City Council Members*

Remember to leave a copy of your speech with the clerk when you sign in to speak.

HELLO Chair (last name of Council Chair) _____, and Council Members,

MY NAME IS _____. I am a St Pete resident and live at the following address _____. I reside in the district of City Council person _____. I have lived in St Pete for _____ years.

THANK YOU for your service and for the opportunity to offer these comments. (skip if you need space as you can thank them again or instead at the end)

MY CONCERNS: I want to express my concerns about the deal proposed by the mayor between the city of St Pete and the Rays/Hines Stadium Gasplant Development Project.

1. OPTIONAL AND FEEL FREE TO CUTOMIZE:

I have significant concerns, as a St Pete Homeowner (OR renter, or homeless), about the use of my tax dollars to fund this deal. I am really concerned that the city or county will need to raise taxes or fees in order to fix our aging storm and wastewater systems and to get the city ready for rising sea levels. I am also concerned about our needs for more affordable housing, and the need for good paying jobs.

2. OPTIONAL AND FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE:

Of course, I love the Rays. Its great to have them in our town. But if I had to choose between that OR having a safe city that is able to safely manage our waste water and sanitation, I'd choose the safe city. I also don't want to pay more taxes to keep the Rays just where they are.

3. OPTIONAL AND FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE:

Add a paragraph or two from the fact sheet and make it your own. Use your own language and style. Don't include too much because there are only 3 minutes.

4. OPTIONAL AND FEEL FREE TO CUSTOMIZE:

I learned that the Community Benefits Council had significant concerns about two specific items – the amount of money that they are offering to the South Side Community – and it not being enough; and the insignificant amount of money that the Rays/Hines can pay to opt out of having affordable housing units. That was a surprise, and I agree it doesn't seem fair or good for our community.

I AM ASKING YOU TO VOTE NO on this deal. Its not a good use of our taxpayer dollars, and I don't want to pay more for basic safety and services like waste and storm water.

5. OPTIONAL: ADD A DECLARATIVE STATEMENT OR TWO FROM THE MAIN TAKEAWAYS FROM THE TEMPLATE HERE THAT FURTHER CLARIFY YOUR ASK ABOVE IF YOU CHOOSE.

THANK YOU for the opportunity to offer these comments and for your service.

Your NAME

Address and phone

Go to tinyurl/BadStadiumDeal for more information; www.LWVSPA.org