



**SARASOTA COUNTY**  
"Dedicated to Quality Service"

April 26, 2019

Peter D. Lear, CPA, CGMA  
City Manager  
City of North Port  
4970 City Hall Blvd.  
North Port, FL 34286

Dear Mr. Lear:

Sarasota County is an entitlement community under the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. As an entitlement community, it receives a formula allocation each year from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This funding is only awarded for the benefit of the residents living in the unincorporated portion of the county unless a municipality agrees to participate in the county program. When this occurs, the county's allocation is increased to reflect the participation of the incorporated municipality.

The City of North Port and Sarasota County entered into an Interlocal Agreement in July 1995 to allow the county to apply for and receive CDBG entitlement funds on behalf of the City of North Port. Because of this Interlocal Agreement, Sarasota County has been able to fund CDBG, HOME Partnership Initiatives (HOME), Disaster Relief, Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) activities within your jurisdiction. In addition to the NSP homes made available to low- and moderate-income households, the build-out of the Social Services building, new lift stations, façade improvements for two businesses and funding for social service attendants, we are currently working with your staff on the sidewalk improvements in five locations as well as improvements at the Garden of the Five Senses park.

Inclusion in the Urban County Qualification will automatically renew for an additional three years unless your jurisdiction formally notifies the county and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that you wish to terminate the agreement. If you wish to terminate the agreement, you will need to send letters to HUD and to me, no later than June 21, 2019. The letters should be addressed to:

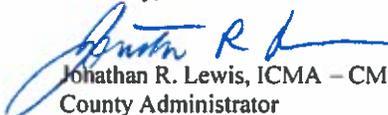
Jonathan R. Lewis  
County Administrator  
Sarasota County  
1660 Ringling Boulevard  
Sarasota, Florida 34236

Thomas Bilodeau  
U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Dev.  
400 West Bay Street  
Suite 1015  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

If you choose to stay with the county program, the Interlocal Agreement will renew for an additional three years. Attached is an interlocal agreement which needs to be approved by the North Port commission and signed by the chair. Should you terminate this agreement, the termination would be effective at the end of the current qualification period, which is September 30, 2019.

Should you have any questions about this matter, please feel free to contact me or the Interim General Manager of the Office of Housing and Community Development, Cindy Emshoff, at 941-951-3605.

Sincerely,



Jonathan R. Lewis, ICMA – CM  
County Administrator

c: Brad Johnson, Assistant County Administrator  
Cari Branco, Assistant City Manager  
Jason Yarborough, Assistant City Manager  
Cindy Emshoff, Interim General Manager, OHCD

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

1660 Ringling Boulevard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor • Sarasota FL 34236 • telephone: 941.861.5111 • fax: 941.861.5987