



# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

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**SENATOR KATHLEEN PASSIDOMO**  
28th District

July 19, 2017

Mr. Trey Price  
Director,  
Florida Housing Finance Corporation  
227 N. Bronough Street  
Suite 5000  
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1239

Dear Mr. Price:

I have received a copy of Collier County Manager, Leo Ochs, letter to you dated Jun 20, 2017 regarding workforce housing in Collier County and am in full support of Collier County's request.

As Mr. Ochs wrote, the shortage of affordable workforce housing for Collier County's workers (particularly teachers, law enforcement, medical personnel and our service industry) is almost at a crisis stage. In his letter, Mr. Ochs mentioned the Urban Land Institute (ULI) study that examined the housing affordability challenges in Collier County. Approximately 90 residents, business and community leaders participated in the study which concluded that if the issue is not addressed soon the housing shortage will become a crisis and will negatively impact Collier County's economy; local employers will have difficulty hiring and retaining employees which will create a "brain drain" out of the community; and the local economy will lose tax revenues to the point where Collier County will continue to sustain the burden of influx infrastructure strain while receiving no tax revenue from it.

The ULI study made a number of important recommendations, such as reframing the idea of housing affordability; increasing Collier County's supply of affordable housing (including rental housing); reactivating the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and linking housing with access to transportation options.

That being said, I echo Mr. Och's request that you consider allocating the maximum amount of SAIL dollars and tax credit resources to Collier County as they move forward to implement the recommendations set forth in the ULI study.

Thank you for your consideration and if you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know.

Very truly yours,  
  
Senator Kathleen Passidomo

REPLY TO:  
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