

From: craig carter <craigezgo@gmail.com>

Date: June 22, 2018 at 1:35:03 PM EDT

To: nancy.muller@floridahousing.org

Subject: Housing needs in Gainesville

I have been a long-time resident of Gainesville/Alachua County (since 1989), serving the community in both the private sector with commercial development and as a business owner as well as the public sector having been elected a City Commissioner. More recently, I was invited to participate as a board member for our local housing agency and just learned that our community might have the opportunity to apply for special federal Community Development-Disaster Relief funds not allocated to those counties that were more directly impacted. Being able to apply for a large-scale new affordable housing project would be very significant for a medium-sized county such as ours with a flagship university and service industry distinct from many others with similar population and demographics. As I work in the commercial real estate business on a daily basis, I can tell you that acquisitions are very hard to come by for nonprofit housing providers such as our agency's instrumentality. The need to help those who fall between the 30-80% AMI on our waiting list is great indeed and while preserving the existing stock in the market where serious rehabilitation is necessary, aide towards new construction is a must thanks to extraordinary high cost of new construction being a major impediment on potential projects where vacant land is available. Our situation is unique as Gainesville/Alachua County is both a university town and place of convergence for veterans from surrounding rural areas due to our VA hospital system. As a former public servant and current agency commissioner, I implore you to keep Alachua County in mind for any additional programming that may be set aside for medium or smaller size counties.

Thank you for committing your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Craig Carter
craigezgo@gmail.com
352-339-4038