



CITY OF CLEARWATER

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

March 12, 2020

Marisa Button
Florida Housing Finance Corporation
227 North Bronough Street, Suite 5000
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Via email: Marisa.Button@floridahousing.org

Re: Upcoming RFA for 9% Housing Credits in Large Counties, LGAO

Dear Ms. Button,

As you know, local governments have been very responsive to FHFC's recent goal of funding for projects that have received a large commitment of local funding. Many local governments went through extensive procurement processes involving internal meetings, taxpayer input, and ultimately approval by elected officials. Most of us also have expended hundreds of person-hours of staff time in order to accomplish this. Some of these sites are even in revitalization areas and/or are owned by the local government. We recognize that not all LGAO's can receive funding approval the first time around. But we applaud FHFC for seeking a way to prioritize LGAOs the second or third time they apply. As you also know, most large Counties have more than one local government that may pursue an LGAO. Ensuring a diversity of LGAOs within in a County should also be a goal. Therefore, we make the following recommendations:

Prioritize LGAO's that are applying for a 2nd or 3rd time, in the upcoming 9% Large County RFA.

Prioritize Local Governments that did not win the LGAO in the prior year.

Sincerely,

Denise Sanderson
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DS:kg

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