



PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

"Bringing Opportunities Home"

DADE CITY (352) 521-4274, Ext. 3445
LAND O' LAKES (813) 996-7341, Ext. 3445
NEW PORT RICHEY (727) 834-3445
FAX (727) 834-3450

PASCO COUNTY COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
5640 MAIN STREET, SUITE 200
NEW PORT RICHEY, FL 34652-2634

May 6, 2014

Mr. Steve Auger, Executive Director
Florida Housing Finance Corporation
227 North Bronough Street, Suite 5000
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Re: Rule making for housing programs (SAIL, etc)

Dear: Mr. Auger:

As you are soliciting comments for your programs and the Strategic Plan, please accept these comments regarding that process:

It is time to eliminate any requirement for scoring local government leveraging, match and funding. You have forced local governments to fund projects that did not need any local government funds in order to be affordable or financially viable. To add insult to injury, you PENALIZE local governments by forcing the loans to be grants – if not, more leveraging is required in order to receive the points.

We appreciate your assistance to helping to re-fund SHIP this year. It is still not enough money to fund all the unmet needs in the community. This requirement needs to be eliminated, our local programs need to be rebuilt.

Please remember that the Affordable Housing Study Commission recommended twice that the requirement be eliminated. A more practical solution would be to force local governments to rank the developments, and make that the tie breaker for applications.

Thank you for the opportunity to allow comments on your programs.

George Romagnoli, AICP
Community Development Manager