

May 20, 2019

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

RE: 2019 RFA - Local Government Area of Opportunity - Palm Beach County

Dear Mr. Price:

We humbly request your consideration to allow Palm Beach County continue to have a Local Government Area of Opportunity Goal in the 2019 Large County 9% Housing Credit RFA to promote participation in the City of Boynton Beach and the Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency's (CRA) Heart of Boynton redevelopment initiative which includes the Martin Luther King Corridor. The City of Boynton Beach will designate a development project in this area as its Local Government Area of Opportunity site if allowed to apply to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) 2019 RFA.

The Boynton Beach CRA has tried for years to obtain funding for affordable housing at this location with little success. After numerous attempts, the 2017 award of the 9% LIHTCs for the Ocean Breeze East project in the Heart of Boynton is the only development in the past 15 years to be funded in this area.

In an attempt to show our commitment to the project, the Boynton Beach CRA will be contributing our property to a qualified affordable housing developer and this development, if funded, will provide a mixed use of affordable apartments and retail facilities. The development of new affordable housing units is in line with the goals and objectives of the FHFC, the Boynton Beach CRA Redevelopment Plan and the City of Boynton Beach Downtown Master Plan.

This will be the first development of its kind on E. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in over thirty years.



The Boynton Beach CRA would greatly appreciate the opportunity to participate through the Local Government Area of Opportunity designation within the FHFC 2019 RFA.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Simon, Executive Director

Cc: Board of the Boynton Beach Community Development Agency
Thuy Shutt, Assistant Director