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September 7, 2020

St. Lucie County BOCC
2300 Virginia Avenue
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SUBJECT: So. SLC Federal Beach Program

Dear Commissioners,

As this years' budget comes to a close, we implore you to bring the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) to a conclusion as soon as possible. Equally important and before the deadline for signing Construction Easements, we urgently request more clarity concerning the annual funding of the "local share" to fulfill the So. SLC Federal Beach Preservation Program. The annual multi-year required funding of the construction costs for the initial winter 2021/22 nourishment project is particularly critical.

We are concerned the present lack of clarity complicates and makes much more difficult the acquisition of the required Construction Easements in the months ahead. Presently, there is no ability to answer property owners concerns about funding mechanisms and the allocation of construction costs. The information provided by staff to date is the "worse case" scenario indicating 1.2529 as the tentative, estimated annual millage rate, with a 6-year payback period (this was outlined in the following, as updated Aug. 17th. <https://www.stlucieco.gov/departments-services/a-z/mosquito-control-coastal-management-services/erosion-district/2020-south-hutchinson-island-renourishment-project/south-county-renourishment-project-funding-plan>).

How can we help bring both the PPA to a conclusion and provide more clarity before the deadline for the required Construction Easements? We have a number of ideas, all of which add clarity as well as provide long-term funding flexibility. We look forward to discussing them with you.

We welcome any opportunity to bring more clarity to the funding plan and continue to work for the successful completion of the "Initial Start" with the USACE. Thank you for all of your efforts.

Yours truly,
President's Council of Hutchinson Island Board of Directors

cc: Mr. Howard Tipton, County Administrator
Mr. Alphonso Jefferson, Deputy County Administrator