

File # 001835

Submitted
Citizen Court
9/10/01
KL
Patricia
Gibson

Dave Newport, Chairman, Alachua County Commission
Alachua County Commissioners + County Attorney
Alachua County Planning + Zoning Staff

cc: Tom Bussing, Mayor, City of Gainesville
City Commissioners + City Attorney
City Planning & Zoning Staff
Rob Viera, Florida Green Building Coalition

RE: LETTER TO REQUEST FUNDING TO ASSIST IN CITY/COUNTY SUSTAINABLE
MASTERPLANNING

Dear Dave:

This letter shall confirm my phone conversation of August 30, 2001, wherein I spoke to you regarding your request, along with county staff, to ask for my assistance in the writing of green incentives in the Land Development Regulations, affordable housing ordinance and PUD language.

With the City of Gainesville/Alachua County as Florida Green Building Coalition, FGBC, members and the first green municipality in the State of Florida, I believe there are several ways that a Florida Green Building Coalition team of experts could be of service to you, and upon your written request, we feel that DCA will fund our efforts to help you as they see Alachua County as serving as a model for the State of Florida for greener municipalities and greener new development as described below:

1. I envision that we would assign a team to coordinate with the City's efforts with their September 17, 2001 workshop to co-design a joint City/County green builder program with a matching green incentive plan for a simultaneous city/county application that would be quantified by the recently released FGBC green home rating debuted at the South East Builder Conference on July 26, 2001. I have also been asked to assist UF Law professor, Tom Ankersen's legal team from the Conservation Clinic in writing incentives for the proposed City green builder program. I believe, that with a written request from the City and the County commission, we are encouraged that we can secure funding to fund our efforts to assist both City and County in these sustainable endeavors while also serving to develop a model for other municipalities across Florida.
2. Develop a voluntary FGBC green land development rating - by which municipalities can use to encourage green developments through incentives.
3. Create a performance-based green incentive plan for sustainable land development.
4. Assist in the development of incentives for affordable housing, quantified by a green home rating since energy efficiency has proven to be an integral element of home affordability, especially when combined with the comfort, health and safety characteristics featuring universal design, and water conservation using site and landscape management.

County & City Commission from P. Glenn letter
Dated September September 7, 2001
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5. Outsourcing of affordable housing assessment, research study or sustainable housing studies.
6. Assist in your efforts to develop a voluntary, viable Transfer of Development Rights program.
7. Work with FGBC to design a green award system based on the green rating performance of builders, developers, product manufacturers, private and public sectors. We have initially proposed a joint effort to design a green awards program with the Florida Home Builder Association to make the green award process consistent across the state. This will lead to less confusion and a higher degree of participation.
8. We could assist in the final County and/or City Comp Plan workshops, as well as subsequent Community workshops for education and training of commissioners, staff, industry partners, and consumers, complete with a proposed PSA marketing campaign to get the green message out to our city and county residents.
9. FGBC can offer research resources and technical assistance to both City and County in the greening of municipal buildings as we know that this effort will give immediate budget relief to the taxpayers who fund our municipalities. We can strive to quantify and project your municipal energy savings to develop your short and long range goals to retrofit municipal and incentivize large scale users, i.e. hospitals, colleges, big box development to go greener.
10. Help incorporate the energy use of buildings into any indexing system that the municipality may employ.

I appreciate a quick response so that we may proceed. Also, please outline any additional services that we may provide not described above.

Kind regards,

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