



Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

Ken Cornell, *Chair*
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Administration
 Dr. Lee A. Niblock, CM
 County Manager

January 24, 2017

Mayor Lauren Poe
 City of Gainesville
 P.O. Box 490, Station 19
 Gainesville, FL 32627

Dear Mayor Poe: *Lauren -*

Alachua County and the City of Gainesville have worked together since the 1980's to provide high quality fire services to the residents of the City of Gainesville and the areas of unincorporated Alachua County that surround the City. This collaboration has resulted in delivery of fire services that are seamless to the citizens. Our citizens of the City and the surrounding unincorporated area rest comfortably knowing that if they call for assistance they will receive a professional, timely fire services response, regardless of whether it's a City or County department.

Since the annexation of Alachua County Fire Rescue Station 19, the City has indicated a desire to be the primary service provider to the SW 24th Ave corridor. In December 2015, the City and County entered into an Interlocal Agreement which amended the Fire Services Assistance Agreement (FSAA) changing the payment provisions and calling for Station 19 to be relocated by October 1, 2016. This agreement was based on the belief that County staff had identified property in the southwest suitable for construction of a fire station to relocate the Engine 19 operation. Since this agreement was signed, County staff discovered that the property owner was not willing to sell and staff has not been able to identify a willing seller for property in this area. However, County staff continues to work diligently in the search for a willing seller and is currently in discussions with a property owner in hopes of beginning due diligence on a suitable parcel.

The Board of County Commission has asked that I reach out to you to request that you consider a modification of the FSAA Interlocal Agreement to compensate for all fire unit responses and

include Engine 19 responses in the formula, allowing the County more time to locate a replacement station for Station 19 while also allowing payment for its services into the City in the meantime.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Ken Cornell, Chair
Alachua County Commission
Chr17.040

KC/WN/jh

cc: Board of County Commissioners
Lee A. Niblock, County Manager
Michele Lieberman, County Attorney
Jim Harriott, Deputy County Manager
Gina Peebles, Assistant County Manager
Carl Smart, Assistant County Manager
Tommy Crosby, Assistant County Manager
William Northcutt, Fire Chief

cc: CCOM
CMBH