



**Department of Planning,
Zoning & Building**

100 Australian Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

(561) 233-5000

Planning Division 233-5300

Zoning Division 233-5200

Building Division 233-5100

Code Enforcement 233-5500

Contractors Certification 233-5525

Administration Office 233-5005

Executive Office 233-5003

www.pbcgov.com/pzb



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September 22, 2003

Kenneth Metcalf
Florida Department of Community Affairs
Division of Community Planning
Bureau of Local Planning
2555 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100

Re: Letter of Understanding for the Palm Beach County Evaluation and Appraisal Report.

Dear Mr. Metcalf:

On July 10, 2003, Palm Beach County conducted an Informal Scoping Meeting with members of state, regional and county agencies, local municipalities, and the public as part of our process to identify major county issues. Subsequently, we received additional input from two County agencies, private sector representatives and the Intergovernmental Plan Amendment Review Committee (IPARC). The enhanced list of issues was then taken on August 20, 2003 for a Workshop of the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, where the Board endorsed the issues as presented by staff.

These issues, as agreed to in the Final Scoping Meeting of September 12, 2003, and the attached Scope of Work, which incorporates the topics required in Section 163.3191 (2) Florida Statutes, will form the basis of Palm Beach County's 2004 Evaluation and Appraisal Report of the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Palm Beach County has already taken steps to address some of these issues or aspects of them, such as the decision to prepare its own population projections, which is related to the first issue; the recent creation and funding of a new Office of Community Revitalization reporting directly to the County Administrator, which is related to issues two and three; the preparation of a Carrying Capacity Analysis to identify the capacity of the County's natural and man-made resources to withstand the impacts of future growth, and the joint effort with the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to develop procedures to assess the impacts of proposed developments on the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), both related to issue number four; and the ongoing activity of the Traffic Performance Standards Steering Committee (TPS Committee), which is related to issue number five. The results or status of these initiatives and other ongoing related projects will be incorporated into the EAR product.



The County recently completed a pilot project under contract with the DCA to address the new requirement to link land use and water supply planning. The contract deliverables including a 20-year Water Supply Work program and related Comprehensive Plan amendments will be adopted with the County's EAR, as required by Florida statutes.

Finally, Palm Beach County and the municipalities of Palm Beach County are exempt from the new requirements related to school planning coordination as result of having in place a School Concurrency Program. An update and status of this program at the time of the EAR will also be part of the EAR product.

Palm Beach County proposes that the major issues detailed in the attached Major Issues Chart (Attachment I) and the Scope of EAR Work (Attachment II) presented herein form the basis for the Letter of Understanding between the Department of Community Affairs and Palm Beach County regarding the content and extent of the County's Evaluation and Appraisal Report. Please contact Mr. Isaac Hoyos at 561-233-5347 should you have any questions or should additional information be required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lorenzo Aghemo".

Lorenzo Aghemo
Planning Director

cc: Honorable Karen T. Marcus, Chair, and Board of County Commissioners
Verdenia Baker, Deputy County Administrator
Barbara Alterman Esq., Executive Director, PZ&B
Terry Hess, Planning Director, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council
Henry Bittaker, PBC Intergovernmental Liaison, SFWMD

Enclosures

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September 22, 2003