

First Baptist

V E N I C E

May 23, 2022

Thomas M. Hodge
Senior Pastor

**First Baptist
Church**
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TO: VENICE MAYOR RON FEINSOD
VENICE CITY COUNCIL

MAY 23 '22 PM 2:17

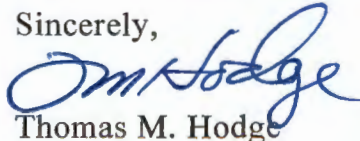
RE: DOWNTOWN VENICE AREA BUILDING HEIGHT

This letter is to request the Venice City Council Members to keep the downtown Venice building height regulations as it has been for the last 50 years:

- First Baptist Church ("FBC") has been located in downtown Venice on Miami Ave. since 1934.
- FBC's Worship Center is taller than 35 ft.
- FBC is aware that the City has discussed changing the building height regulations for the downtown area, which would impact its property, so to remove the ability to request additional height beyond 35 ft.
- The current regulations, which have been in effect for the past 50 years have worked well for FBC and from FBC's perspective.
- Without the ability to request additional height, FBC would not have been able to build its Worship Center.
- FBC is concerned that, should it need to voluntarily address something for its building, the change in regulations would prevent it from being able to do so (or even ask to do so).
- Please keep the current regulations in place for the downtown Venice area.
- FBC is very proud to be located in downtown Venice and believes it is one of the most, if not the most, beautiful Cities in southwest Florida.
- FBC would hate to see a change to the regulations that have produced and maintained the character and sense of community that downtown Venice provides.
- FBC has been a vital partner in the growth and development of the Venice Community. Maintaining the current regulations will continue to serve the Venice Community for years to come.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Hodge

Senior Pastor