



## SARASOTA COUNTY

*"Dedicated to Quality Service"*

April 26, 2019

Edward F. Lavallee  
City Manager  
City of Venice  
401 West Venice Ave.  
Venice, FL 34285

Dear Mr. Lavallee:

Sarasota County is an entitlement community under the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. As an entitlement community, it receives a formula allocation each year from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This funding is only awarded for the benefit of the residents living in the unincorporated portion of the county unless a municipality agrees to participate in the county program. When this occurs, the county's allocation is increased to reflect the participation of the incorporated municipality.

The City of Venice and Sarasota County entered into an Interlocal Agreement in July 1995 to allow the county to apply for and receive CDBG entitlement funds on behalf of the City of Venice. Because of this Interlocal Agreement, Sarasota County has been able to fund CDBG, HOME Partnership Initiatives (HOME), Disaster Relief, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) activities within your jurisdiction. In addition to the stormwater drainage improvements at the Venice Mobile Home Park, we are currently working with your staff on the sidewalk improvements on Ridgewood Avenue. Soon the major redevelopment of Venetian Walk Phase II should go to closing, and that project includes CDBG and HOME funds as part of the total funding package.

Inclusion in the Urban County Qualification will automatically renew for an additional three years unless your jurisdiction formally notifies the county and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that you wish to terminate the agreement. If you wish to terminate the agreement, you will need to send letters to HUD and to me, no later than June 21, 2019. The letters should be addressed to:

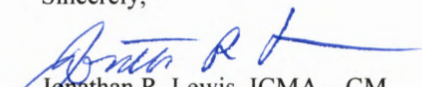
Jonathan R. Lewis  
County Administrator  
Sarasota County  
1660 Ringling Boulevard  
Sarasota, Florida 34236

Thomas Bilodeau  
U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Dev.  
400 West Bay Street  
Suite 1015  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

If you choose to stay with the county program, the Interlocal Agreement will renew for an additional three years. Attached is an interlocal agreement which will need to be approved by the Venice commission and signed by the mayor. Should you terminate this agreement, the termination would be effective at the end of the current qualification period, which is September 30, 2019.

Should you have any questions about this matter, please feel free to contact me or the Interim General Manager of the Office of Housing and Community Development, Cindy Emshoff, at 941-951-3605.

Sincerely,



Jonathan R. Lewis, ICMA – CM  
County Administrator

c: Brad Johnson, Assistant County Administrator  
Len Bramble, Assistant City Manager  
Cindy Emshoff, Interim General Manager, OHCD

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

1660 Ringling Boulevard, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor ■ Sarasota FL 34236 ■ telephone: 941.861.5111 ■ fax: 941.861.5987