



ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS INC.

Florida's First Choice in Cultural Resource Management

March 28, 2019

Mayor John Holic
Venice City Council
City Hall
401 West Venice Avenue
Venice, Florida 34285

Dear Mayor and City Council:

It is my privilege to write to you as Chairman of the Florida Historical Commission (FHC); a body appointed by the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House to represent all Floridians in the quest for preservation of our state's unique heritage. My purpose is to support the City's interest in the Certified Local Government (CLG) program. As a native Sarasotan, I have watched Venice grow and expand, keeping its beautiful historic core within the National Register listed *John Nolan Plan*, where esplanades, parks and beaches draw citizens and tourists year-round.

This grass roots program was enacted as part of the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 to help communities designate and preserve valuable historic resources. Currently 75 communities, counties, and cities in Florida participate. The FHC hears from these communities each year, assists in the awarding of funds for worthy projects, and cheer the success of each community – and YES, there are many success stories to share. The program helps its participants survey historic and archaeological resources, develop preservation measures, including training staff and developing ordinances, and increase public awareness of a community's history. The City of Venice is "a natural" for this program – just driving into the City and the John Nolan Plan, one immediately notices the beautiful buildings standing tall along the avenues and knows that Venice is exceptional. Indeed, Venice is a destination for thousands of tourists each year who value unique historic experiences. Participating in the CLG program will help to continue the City's efforts to preserve and maintain its architectural beauty and advance its protection through grants and professional assistance only available to CLG communities. As a member of the FHC, I see the positive impacts of this program across the state, in Sarasota County and the City of Sarasota. Let's add Venice to our local success story.

I urge you to consider participating in this "tried and true" program to enhance Venice's on-going and successful historic preservation efforts through grant funding, protective regulations, and education of its citizens - present and future.

I live in Sarasota and am available if I can personally assist the City of Venice concerning historic preservation in this vibrant and growing community.

Sincerely,

Marion M. Almy, Chairman FHC
President, Archaeological Consultants, Inc.

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