



**SARASOTA COUNTY**  
"Dedicated to Quality Service"

July 9, 2019

Mr. Edward F. Lavallee, City Manager  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285

**Re: *Tree Protection Interlocal Agreement***

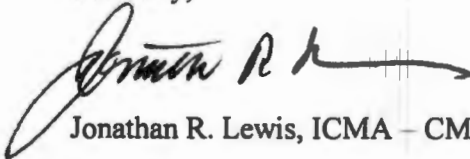
Dear Mr. Lavallee:

County staff has reviewed your letter dated June 14, 2019, regarding the Tree Protection Interlocal Agreement (Contract C91-299). There may be several items to consider that would be of mutual benefit to address in the transition period before termination of the agreement.

Given the history of Sarasota County administering the Trees Code within the City of Venice, there are many issued permits, permits currently under review, and ongoing compliance cases. While the City's tree regulations are now under development, it may be helpful to clarify the terms of the transition to address the above. The City undertook a similar approach when it assumed regulation of the County's Water and Navigation Control Authority with the adoption of Chapter 86, Article VI, Division 14, Structures Over Water, Shoreline Protection Devices and Maintenance Dredging, (refer to Sec. 86-535(e)). Something comparable for the Trees Code would provide clarity to both jurisdictions and the regulated community. Further, we will make our records for Trees Code implementation within the City of Venice available to you.

Please contact Rachel A. Herman, Environmental Protection Division Manager, to discuss establishing a procedure processing permits that are currently in the system and a transition plan for the City to take over. You can reach her at [rherman@scgov.net](mailto:rherman@scgov.net) or 941-315-8182.

Sincerely,



Jonathan R. Lewis, ICMA – CM

c: Brad Johnson, Assistant County Administrator  
Matt Osterhoudt, Director, Planning and Development Services Department  
Rachel Herman, Manager, Environmental Protection Division

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

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