



City of Cape Coral

Office of the Mayor and City Council

September 20, 2013

The Honorable Rick Scott
Executive Office of the Governor
400 S. Monroe Street, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Subject: Cape Coral/Fort Myers Reclaimed Water Interconnect - \$900,000

Dear Governor Scott:

As you review the items to be included in your 2014 Budget, the cities of Cape Coral and Fort Myers would like to reiterate the importance of the Cape Coral/Fort Myers Reclaimed Water Interconnect. This critically important and environmentally sensitive reclaimed water project funding was supported by the 2012 and 2013 Florida Legislature in the Final Conference Report. It is also a priority of the Lee County Legislative Delegation. This regional project has been fully and publicly vetted by many state and local governments and agencies. This project remains important to the City of Cape Coral, Fort Myers and the entire SW Florida Region. It is supported by the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program, Lee County Board of County Commissioners, the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (see attached letters), and the South Florida Water Management District as this project is included in the Caloosahatchee River Watershed Protection Plan (CRE 126).

We respectfully request that we have an opportunity to better understand what more is needed to get support for this project and how we can work with the State to get funding approved or suggestions on other grants or programs we could access through DEP or SFWMD. This project is vital to the health of our environment and local waterways including the Caloosahatchee River which is a federally listed impaired waterway. This project would provide regional benefits to Southwest Florida. It would eliminate the discharge of wastewater effluent into the Caloosahatchee River which terminates in the Gulf of Mexico along the beaches of Sanibel and Captiva. Finally, this project will support one of the largest reclaimed water systems in the United States by providing the additional reclaimed water needed by the City of Cape Coral to supplement the current supply. I have attached a short fact sheet on the project which lists the public policy importance of the project, job creation, and public safety benefits as well.

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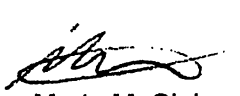
If you wish to discuss this further with me, please feel free to contact my office at (239) 574-0436.

Sincerely,

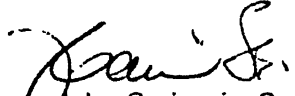
CITY OF CAPE CORAL



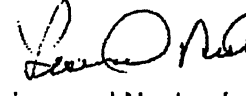
John J. Sullivan,
Mayor



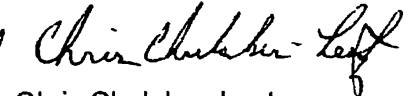
Marty McClain
Council Member
District #1



John Carioscia, Sr.
Council Member
District #2



Leonard Nesta, Jr.
Council Member
District #3




Chris Chulakes-Leetz
Council Member
District #4



Rana Erbrick
Council Member
District #5



Kevin McGrail
Council Member
District #6



Dr. Derrick Donnell
Council Member
District #7

cc: Congressman Trey Radel
Senator Garrett Richter
Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto
Representative Dane Eagle
Lee County State Legislative Delegation
Herschel Vinyard, DEP Secretary
Leonard Zeiler, DEP Chief of Staff
Drew Bartlett, DEP Deputy Secretary Water Policy and Eco Restoration
Jon M. Iglehart, Director of Ft. Myers-FDEP
Blake Guillory, Executive Director SFWMD
Dan Delisi, Chief of Staff-SFWMD
Mr. Jerry McDaniel, Director, OPB
Glenn Reagan, OPB Enviro Policy Unit
Andrew Grayson, OPB Enviro Policy Unit

Attachments