



UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability

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March 11, 2024

Mayor Woody Brown, Chair
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
4000 Gateway Centre Blvd., Suite 100
Pinellas Park, Florida 33782

RE: Sarasota County's Letter of Intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement for the Sunshine State Energy Resilience Coalition.

Dear Mayor Brown,

I am writing to express my community's commitment to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council's (TBRPC) application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Phase II Implementation of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program. The TBRPC's proposed "Sunshine State Energy Resilience Coalition" project reduces air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions while creating more resilient communities for those most affected by pollution.

Sarasota County is leading the North-Port-Sarasota-Bradenton, Florida Metropolitan Statistical Area CPRG planning project. We are hopeful this unique and unprecedented opportunity will allow us to partner together to implement our environmental, economic, public health and resilience goals and projects identified in this federal grant for our region.

Sarasota County was a founding member of the Sunshine State Energy Resilience Coalition (SSERC) and is strongly committed to its goals and scope of work. If awarded funding, we will work with the TBRPC, SSERC members, and community partners to ensure the success of the project. The MOA will clearly describe the agreed upon roles, responsibilities, contributions, resources, and commitments each partner will provide to ensure project success, as well as the coalition's operating model and statement of accountability to the U.S. EPA.

Sincerely,



Jonathan R. Lewis, ICMA-CM
County Administrator