



March 1, 2016

Governor Rick Scott
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

On behalf of the West Orange Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Oakland, we respectfully ask that you support the request for funding for a Wastewater Collection System ("System") in Oakland that will benefit West Orange and the entire regional planning area. Oakland is a town currently dependent on septic tanks which causes some concern because it limits the potential for economic development and its proximity to Lake Apopka.

The System provides environmental protection to an important spring shed and an impaired water body (Lake Apopka). The Wastewater Collection System will reduce the installation and use of septic tanks along the south shore of Lake Apopka, consistent with the state's goals of encouraging water conservation and reuse. It would allow for the completion of a main trunk for getting 1,000 septic tanks adjacent to Lake Apopka onto sanitary sewer.

The Sanitary Sewer System, as a solution, will become a source for an alternative water supply in the region. Once the wastewater is sanitized, it can provide uses for non-potable water such as sprinkler systems. The installation of the System will be a catalyst for economic development on 200 acres of commercial/industrial property on SR 50, including 58 acres of property owned by the Florida Turnpike Enterprise. and will create approximately 5,100 jobs in the process.

In addition to the benefits to economic development along the commercial corridor, the benefits to a growing eco-tourism industry will be enjoyed by many tourists to our region. With the "Coast-to-Coast" Trail, improvements in Lake Apopka, the expansion of the West Orange Trail, Lake Apopka Loop, South Lake Trail, the Green Mountain Scenic Byway, and the Oakland Nature Preserve, our area is a natural tourist attraction for those who want to see the natural beauty of old Florida.

We strongly support the request that has been made for funding for the Wastewater Collection System in the Fiscal Year 2016.

Sincerely,

Stina D'Uva
President/CEO
West Orange Chamber of Commerce

cc: Dennis Foltz, Oakland Town Manager

Community Trustees

Ace Hardware
Apple Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.
Best Cleaners
Boyd Development Corporation
Bright Future Electric, LLC
Cemex
CenturyLink
Computer Business Consultants
DRB Benefits Group
Duke Energy
First Class Cleaners
Fishback Dominick
Florida Blue
Florida Hospital Winter Garden
June Engineering Consultants, Inc.
Observer Media Group
OHL-Arellano Construction Co.
Orlando Health
R.C. Stevens Construction Company
Regions Bank
Seacoast Bank
University of Central Florida
Walt Disney World Company



Triple Recipient 2009, 2012 & 2015