



December 8, 2017

Dennis Foltz, Town Manager
Town of Oakland
PO Box 98
Oakland, FL 34760

Dear Dennis,

The West Orange Chamber of Commerce is in support of the request for funding for a Wastewater Collection System ("System") in Oakland that will benefit West Orange and the entire regional planning area. We support the Oakland/South Lake initiative to complete the design and construction of the critical phase of the town of Oakland's wastewater system. We know that relieving the Town's dependency on septic tanks will open the potential for increased economic development.

The Sanitary Sewer System, as a solution, will become a source for an alternative water supply in the region. The installation of the System will be a catalyst for economic development and will create approximately 5,200 jobs in the process. This initiative will also increase property values and be an even greater source for sales tax revenues for local and state agencies.

In addition to the benefits to economic development along the commercial corridor, the Oakland/South Lake Initiative provides added value to our growing eco-tourism industry that will be enjoyed by many tourists who visit 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 Oakland/South Lake Initiative in the Fiscal Year 2018.

Sincerely,

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

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