



"A City for All Ages"

JEFF BREMER
City Manager

CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE

Office of the City Manager

July 7, 2015

Re: Letter of Support for SELF Grant Application for NOAA Coastal Resilience Funding

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of the City of Port St. Lucie for the Solar and Energy Loan Fund (SELF) and its application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) FY 2015 Regional Coastal Resilience Program. As one of Florida's largest cities, Port St. Lucie faces significant threats from hurricanes, tropical storms and severe weather that are all too prevalent in this region of the state. The twin hurricanes of 2004, followed by another in 2005, left widespread damage throughout the City but also gave the community a lasting lesson about the need for wind-storm mitigation. This program will provide our property owners the ability to harden their homes against future storm hazards by creating a new and much-needed source of storm-related financing.

The City has a long and successful relationship with SELF. For years, property owners throughout the City have been able to secure low-interest loans through the regional non-profit institution for "green" improvements that save energy, cut costs, improve health and boost property values. Recently, the program has been expanded to include weatherization measures, and we hope to see this growth result in an increase in available low-cost financing that this program would create for hazard mitigation such as hurricane shutters, new roofs, stronger windows and doors.

The City of Port St. Lucie looks forward to furthering its partnership with SELF and giving homeowners and business owners a new alternative for hardening their properties against severe wind-storms. We ask that you give the SELF application your careful and, hopefully, favorable consideration so that our residents will be able to strengthen their homes and businesses and in the process, further strengthen our City.

Sincerely,

Jeff Bremer
City Manager