

**WHEREAS,** Local Foods, Local Places helps cities across the country protect the environment and human health by engaging with local partners to reinvest in existing neighborhoods considered food deserts; and

**WHEREAS,** the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sponsored the 2019 program supporting locally led, community-driven efforts to protect air and water quality, preserve open space, boost economic opportunities for local businesses, improve access to healthy local food, and promote wellness; and

**WHEREAS,** the city of Fort Pierce was selected as one of 15 communities in the country to receive technical assistance for the creation of a Community Action Plan; and

**WHEREAS,** various community stakeholders came together to develop a plan to strengthen educational programs and activities around healthy food, explore place-based opportunities to increase access to healthy food, expand awareness of programs that provide fitness and wellness opportunities, expand job training and economic opportunities related to the food industry, and expanding beautification and educational activities surrounding Moore's Creek; and

**WHEREAS,** with a steering committee comprised of community champions from UF/IFAS Extension St. Lucie, Florida Department of Health in St. Lucie County, Treasure Coast Food Bank, United Against Poverty, Florida Small Business Development Council, Hebni Nutritional Consultants, and 16 Green Acres, the city of Fort Pierce is poised to strengthen our communities' economic outlook and health.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim Fort Pierce, Florida as a:

***“2019 Local Foods, Local Places Partner Community”***

and encourage all Fort Pierce citizens to support the initiative to promote an economically vibrant community.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019.

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**MAYOR/COMMISSIONER**