



January 1, 2024

To: NOAA Office for Coastal Management

Project name: Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub

Subject: NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge (2023)

To whom it may concern:

The Lealman Community Association understands that Pinellas County Public Works is applying for grant funding through the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project. This grant investment will fund a transformative project that will restore Joe's Creek in accordance with the County's resilience vision.

This project provides a unique opportunity to address both physical and community resilience in an underserved portion of the County. The project will include restoration of Joe's Creek channel to reduce coastal climate risk, build the greenway trail to provide urban greenspace to mitigate heat island effects and improve air quality and mental health through recreation; increase connectivity to jobs and public transit; enhance the LEX resilience hub by increasing sheltering capacity and provide workforce development training that will help grow the workforce to become climate resilient. The multiple initiatives of this project will work in concert with each other to achieve a more resilient Joe's Creek and Pinellas County community.

The collaborative nature of this project through its multiple components will promote community engagement and involvement in the project and will foster long-term community resilience.

The Lealman Community Association believes Pinellas County's use of this grant funding will achieve resilience in this coastal region while promoting regional collaboration, equity and enduring capacity. We encourage NOAA to approve Pinellas County's application to fund the Joe's Creek Restoration project.

Sincerely,

The Lealman Community Association Board of Directors

Lealmancommunityassociation@gmail.com



Florida Department of Transportation

RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

11201 N. McKinley Drive
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

JARED W. PERDUE, P.E.
SECRETARY

December 20, 2023

Support Letter from FDOT-D7 Planning and FDOT Central Office.

Kelli Hammer Levy, MS, MPA, CPM, ENVSP
Director, Pinellas County Public Works
Pinellas County Government
22211 US Highway 19 North, Bldg. 1
Clearwater, FL 33765

Re: NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program

Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub - Support Letter

Dear Ms. Levy:

As part of our Local Department of Transportation District Seven (FDOT-D7) Planning Office, which includes Pinellas County as a key local County Government within the D7 boundary, we are writing in support of approving Pinellas County's application to the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for the **Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project**. This regional infrastructure project includes a regional multi-modal trail, channel restoration to improve resiliency, while supporting economic opportunity and redevelopment in a lower income community.

In 2017, a joint-effort trail alignment study for the Joe's Creek Greenway Trail was completed, which identified the Joe's Creek Channel corridor as the recommended route for the proposed regional trail. The trail-study was a joint-funded effort amongst Forward Pinellas, Florida Department of Health, Pinellas County, and other local community partners, including:

- Forward Pinellas
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
- Lealman Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)
- Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
- Town of Kenneth City
- City of Pinellas Park
- City of St Petersburg
- Police Athletic League
- Florida Dream Center
- Pinellas County Economic Developments

The **Joe's Creek Greenway Trail and Channel Restoration** project will bring forth multi-dimensional benefits much needed to transform the underserved LMI communities along Joe's Creek Channel, in terms of:

- **Safety** (multi-modal trail provides safe and affordable access links to public transit and to work / businesses/ public recreational amenities)
- **Environmental Sustainability** (improve regional resiliency through flood reduction, enhance natural habitats and surface water quality, and air pollution reduction from vehicular emissions)
- **Quality of Life** (using enhanced trail & channel corridor design elements, to promote quality of life and provide beautified recreational amenities)

- **Economic Equity / Competitiveness** (incentivize economic redevelopments in low-moderate income (LMI) communities along project corridor and create jobs)
- **State of Good Repair** (significantly reduce maintenance costs on repair major channel erosion, flooding damage, roadway repaving maintenance, and vehicular repairs)
- **Innovation** (utilizing green infrastructure (GI) engineering technologies to stabilize channel embankment to avoid repeated erosion and improve drainage capacity)
- **Partnership** (multi-jurisdictional project supports received from local / state agencies, and local municipalities within the Joe's Creek Watershed)

Multimodal Infrastructure: The **Joe's Creek Greenway - Trail** component will provide safe and affordable access for residents in the underserved Lealman community to the Joe's Creek Greenway Park, the Lealman Exchange, and businesses along 54th Avenue North and 34th Street (US 19), as well as connecting regionally to the Pinellas Trail (soon to become a 75-mile loop around the county) and to future bicycle/pedestrian facilities in the adjacent cities of Kenneth City and St. Petersburg. The trail will provide direct access to transit service operated by the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) and will create a well-connected network of walking and bicycling facilities in this area of south-central Pinellas County. The area has a high percentage (about 25 percent) of households with incomes below the poverty level and without vehicles available. Many residents are separated from destinations by high-speed, high-volume roadways slicing through the Lealman community and need safer mobility options.

Resiliency: The **Joe's Creek Greenway - Channel Restoration** component will provide flood reduction benefits, creek bank stabilization utilizing green infrastructure (GI) innovative technologies, surface water quality improvements, natural habitats enhancements, erosion control, and removal of invasive/exotic plant species. The reshaping and stabilization of the Joe's Creek main channel will improve regional resiliency capacity against sea level rise and flooding concerns within *Joe's Creek Watershed*, by improving channel capacity and restoring Joe's Creek Channel's original design flowline elevation from early 1900's.

Equity: The **Joe's Creek Greenway** project corridor is bordered by under-served low to medium income (LMI) communities with very limited transportation modes. The Joe's Creek Greenway project will provide an economic catalyst to support desired redevelopment and affordable housing in the low-income area and connect the LMI-households to available public transit amenities and other points of service locations like schools, parks, and public service agencies. The proposed world-class trail amenity will also improve the Quality of Life for all surrounding LMI residents. Additionally, this project will enhance the Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub by increasing sheltering capacity and provide workforce development training that will help grow the workforce to become climate resilient.

The Advantage Pinellas 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan and Active Transportation Plan place a priority on completing the Joe's Creek Greenway Trail. Reflecting the important issues of economic opportunity, public health, community redevelopment, environmental quality, and sustainability, we ask your support for this wise investment in public dollars that will leverage other public and private resources and contribute to a stronger community.

Sincerely,



Abdul Waris

FDOT D7

District Drainage Design Engineer



Florida Dream Center, Inc.

4017 56th Ave N. St. Petersburg, FL 33714

(O) 727-851-9074 (F) 727-851-9954

www.FloridaDreamCenter.org

December 21, 2023

Attn: NOAA Office for Coastal Management

Project name: NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge (2023)

Subject: Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern

I, on behalf of Florida Dream Center, understand that Pinellas County Public Works is applying for grant funding through the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project. This grant investment will fund a transformative project that will restore Joe's Creek in accordance with the County's resilience vision.

This project provides a unique opportunity to address both physical and community resilience in an underserved portion of the County. The project will include restoration of Joe's Creek channel to reduce coastal climate risk, build the greenway trail to provide urban greenspace to mitigate heat island effects and improve air quality and mental health through recreation; increase connectivity to jobs and public transit; enhance the LEX resilience hub by increasing sheltering capacity and provide workforce development training that will help grow the workforce to become climate resilient. The multiple initiatives of this project will work in concert with each other to achieve a more resilient Joe's Creek and Pinellas County community.

The collaborative nature of this project through its multiple components will promote community engagement and involvement in the project and will foster long-term community resilience.

The Florida Dream Center believes Pinellas County's use of this grant funding will achieve resilience in this coastal region while promoting regional collaboration, equity and enduring capacity. We encourage NOAA to approve Pinellas County's application to fund the Joe's Creek Restoration project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Steve Cleveland', is written over the word 'Respectfully,'.

Steve Cleveland
President & CEO

727-851-9074 (o)

sjcleveland@floridadreamcenter.org



Date: December 27, 2023

Subject: **Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project**

Dear Reviewers,

The St. Petersburg Innovation District would like to share our support for the **Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project**. This important endeavor is being submitted to the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program by Pinellas County Public Works. The grant investment will fund a transformative project that will restore Joe's Creek in accordance with the County's resilience vision. This project provides a unique opportunity to address both physical and community resilience in an underserved portion of the County. The project will include restoration of Joe's Creek channel to reduce coastal climate risk; build the greenway trail to provide urban greenspace to mitigate heat island effects and improve air quality and mental health through recreation; increase connectivity to jobs and public transit; enhance the LEX resilience hub by increasing sheltering capacity and provide workforce development training that will help grow the workforce to become climate resilient. The multiple initiatives of this project will work in concert with each other to achieve a more resilient Joe's Creek and Pinellas County community.

The Innovation District is particularly supportive of the collaborative nature of this project to promote community engagement and involvement, and foster long-term community resilience. This approach aligns well to the work of the Innovation District's Maritime and Defense Technology Hub, a shared space for maritime technology firms, as well as the Ocean Team, a premier maritime consortium in the Southeast. Our 50+ members have first-hand experience and expertise that comes from living and working directly on the coast, and through their efforts at leading organizations in the marine science/oceanography, life science, and technology sectors. We have committed our network to support this important effort.

The Innovation District believes Pinellas County's use of this grant funding will achieve resilience in this coastal region while promoting regional collaboration, equity, and enduring capacity. We encourage NOAA to approve Pinellas County's application to fund the Joe's Creek Restoration project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alison Barlow".

Alison Barlow
Executive Director
St. Petersburg Innovation District



Maritime and Defense Technology Hub tenants: Aurora Borealis Networks, The DarkStar Group, Digital Twin Marine, Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation, Gates Defense, iCAN, Loggerhead, Lognovations, Lonestar Data Holdings, Pole Star Defense, PowerBridge Holdings, PVM, Real Random, Saildrone, Seven Serpents, SOFWolf, SummitET, VideoRay, Virtru, Woolpert.



St. Petersburg Ocean Team members: City of St. Petersburg, Eckerd College, eConcrete, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission – Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, Florida Institute of Oceanography, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Region, Oceana, Pinellas County, Pole Star Defense, RDSea, Saildrone, St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg Economic Development Corporation, St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership, Stetson College of Law, Tampa Bay Estuary Program, Tampa Bay Watch, 2 Degrees C, U.S. Coast Guard Sector St. Pete, U.S. Geological Survey, USF College of Marine Science, Woolpert.



December 27, 2023

Kelli Hammer Levy, MS, MPA, CPM, ENVSP
Director, Pinellas County Public Works
Pinellas County Government
22211 US Highway 19 North, Bldg. 1
Clearwater, FL 33765

Re: NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program

Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub - Support Letter

Dear Ms. Levy:

We are writing in support of approving Pinellas County's application to the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project. The Pinellas County Department of Economic Development is pleased to continue to collaborate with Pinellas County Public Works on this worthy project. This regional infrastructure project includes a regional multi-modal trail, channel restoration to improve resiliency, while supporting economic opportunity through the enticement of redevelopment in a lower income community and an existing industrial park.

The 2017 Joe's Creek Greenway Trail Alignment Study proposed alignment of a regional trail along the Joe's Creek corridor to provide connectivity from the Raymond H Neri Park to the countywide Pinellas Trail network and St. Petersburg's future 71st St North Trail. The Advantage Pinellas 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan and Active Transportation Plan place a priority on completing the Joe's Creek Greenway Trail, to complete regional trail loop connectivity.

The 2016 Joe's Creek Watershed Management Plan and the 2018 Joe's Creek Channel 1 Bank Restoration study contain recommendations to improve flood protection, water quality, and resiliency through improvements such as channel and culvert improvements and implementation of green infrastructure. As part of this Plan, Economic Development provided an in-house evaluation of the Joe's Creek Industrial Park that is located within the Lealman CRA and the Plan area, home to approximately 90 businesses that employ nearly 1,110 workers. The proposed multi-modal trail, channel improvements, stormwater best management practices, community placemaking and workforce development are expected to attract redevelopment in the Lealman CRA and will support the community on a regional level.

The Pinellas County Department of Economic Development is pleased to collaborate with Pinellas County Public Works on the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub

PINELLAS COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
The EpiCenter • 13805 58th Street North • Suite 1-200 • Clearwater, FL 33760
(727) 464-7332 • (727) 464-7053 FAX • www.pced.org



project, in connection to the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge funding opportunity. We are committed to continual support of this market area and plan to attend future stakeholder and project meetings. Additionally, we will provide information on the most current data to aid in decision-making for the low to moderate income community and the existing industrial park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Dr. Cynthia Johnson
Pinellas County Economic Development

Neil Brickfield
Executive Director

11479 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida 33778
Phone: (727) 443-7684 | Fax: (727) 489-0757
TDD: (800) 955-8770 | TTY: (800) 955-8771



December 21, 2023

Attn: Alexandria Rieman

Subject: Joes' Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail Project

To whom it may concern:

I, on behalf of Pinellas County Housing Authority, understand that Pinellas County Public Works is applying for grant funding through the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project. This grant investment will fund a transformative project that will restore Joe's Creek in accordance with the County's resilience vision.

This project provides a unique opportunity to address both physical and community resilience in an underserved portion of the County. The project will include restoration of Joe's Creek channel to reduce coastal climate risk, build the greenway trail to provide urban greenspace to mitigate heat island effects and improve air quality and mental health through recreation; increase connectivity to jobs and public transit; enhance the Lealman Community Center's resilience hub by increasing sheltering capacity and provide workforce development training that will help grow the workforce to become climate resilient. The multiple initiatives of this project will work in concert with each other to achieve a more resilient Joe's Creek and Pinellas County community.

The collaborative nature of this project through its multiple components will promote community engagement and involvement in the project and will foster long-term community resilience. What a great day it will be when resident's of Lealman will enjoy their pool along a fully restored Joe's Creek!

The Pinellas County Housing Authority believes Pinellas County's use of this grant funding will achieve resilience in this coastal region while promoting regional collaboration, equity and enduring capacity. We encourage NOAA to approve Pinellas County's application to fund the Joe's Creek Restoration project.

Sincerely,



Neil Brickfield, Executive Director

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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CITY HALL - P.O.Box 1100
PINELLAS PARK, FL 33780-1100

December 20, 2023

Kelli Hammer Levy, MS, MPA, CPM, ENVSP
Director, Pinellas County Public Works
Pinellas County Government
22211 US Highway 19 North, Bldg. 1
Clearwater, FL 33765

Re: NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program

Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub

Dear Ms. Levy:

As a local municipality partner of Pinellas County, we are writing this Letter of Support for Pinellas County's grant application to the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project. The City of Pinellas Park is pleased to collaborate with Pinellas County Public Works on this worthy project. This regional infrastructure project includes a regional multi-modal trail, channel restoration to improve resiliency, while supporting economic opportunity and redevelopment in a lower income community.

The City of Pinellas Park partnered with Pinellas County and the Southwest Florida Water Management District to jointly develop the watershed master plan for Joe's Creek. We fully support Pinellas County as they pursue implementing the plan helping to reduce the threats, we are all facing threats from flooding and other hazards, and we appreciate the County Government seeking this funding to improve the resiliency in the Joe's Creek Watershed.

This regional project is identified by the watershed management plan for watershed-wide flood protection, erosion control, and water quality improvements using green infrastructure (GI) concepts to minimize flood risk, improve regional resiliency, and help catalyze redevelopment in the Pinellas Park Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) and other low-moderate-income (LMI) areas of the watershed. These efforts are highly interdependent and will benefit from a coordinated project approach. Our mission aligns with this transformative project that will improve the quality of life of residents and we welcome the opportunity to provide resources and decision-making for the various aspects of this project.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (727) 369-0697. We look forward to working with you on this important project.

Bart Diebold

City Manager

City of Pinellas Park



December 21, 2023

Kelli Hammer Levy, MS, MPA, CPM, ENVSP
Director, Pinellas County Public Works
Pinellas County Government
22211 US Highway 19 North, Bldg. 1
Clearwater, FL 33765

Re: NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program

Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub - Support Letter

Dear Ms. Levy:

As executive director of Forward Pinellas, which serves as the countywide planning council and the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for Pinellas County, I am writing in support of approving Pinellas County's application to the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for **the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project**.

This is an important Triple Bottom Line project for Pinellas County that will provide a regional multi-modal trail facility, protect the environment, and improve resiliency, while supporting economic opportunity and redevelopment in a lower income community. In 2017, our agency completed an alignment study for the Joe's Creek Greenway Trail with funding from the Florida Department of Health and support from Pinellas County and community partners. The 2017 Joe's Creek Greenway Trail Alignment Study proposed alignment of a regional trail along the Joe's Creek corridor to provide connectivity from the Raymond H Neri Park to the countywide Pinellas Trail network and St. Petersburg's future 71st St. North Trail. The Advantage Pinellas 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan and Active Transportation Plan place a priority on completing the Joe's Creek Greenway Trail.

As for the drainage component, the 2016 Joe's Creek Watershed Management Plan (WMP) and the 2018 Joe's Creek Channel 1 Bank Restoration study contain recommendations to improve flood protection, water quality, and resiliency through improvements such as channel and culvert improvements and

implementation of green infrastructure (GI). The proposed multi-modal trail, channel improvements, and stormwater best management practices (BMPs) are expected to incentivize redevelopment in the Lealman Community Redevelopment Area and complement adopted land use and redevelopment policies established through Forward Pinellas' Target Employment and Industrial Lands Study (TEILS) update, completed in 2023.

The project will provide safe and affordable access for residents in the underserved Lealman community to the Joe's Creek Greenway Park, the Lealman Exchange, and businesses along 54th Avenue North and 34th Street (US 19), as well as connecting regionally to the Pinellas Trail (soon to become a 75-mile loop around the county) and to future bicycle/pedestrian facilities in the adjacent cities of Kenneth City and St. Petersburg. The trail will provide direct access to transit service operated by the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) and will create a well-connected network of walking and bicycling facilities in this area of south-central Pinellas County. The area has a high percentage (about 25 percent) of households with incomes below the poverty level and without vehicles available. Many residents are separated from destinations by high-speed, high-volume roadways slicing through the Lealman community and need safer mobility options.

Reflecting the important issues of economic opportunity, public health, community redevelopment, environmental quality, and sustainability, Forward Pinellas is pleased to collaborate with Pinellas County Public Works on this worthy project. Forward Pinellas will serve as a collaborator by reviewing materials, engaging with stakeholders, and undertaking complementary planning and project development activities.

Sincerely,



Whit Blanton FAICP
Executive Director

KATHY CASTOR
14TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATIONS
RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DATA
AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY, CLIMATE
AND GRID SECURITY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON
THE STRATEGIC COMPETITION
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST
PARTY



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ST. PETERSBURG DISTRICT OFFICE:

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December 21, 2023

Kelli Hammer Levy, MS, MPA, CPM, ENVSP
Director, Pinellas County Public Works
Pinellas County Government
22211 US Highway 19 North, Bldg. 1
Clearwater, FL 33765

Re: NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub

Dear Ms. Levy,

I am writing in support of Pinellas County's application to the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project.

According to Pinellas County, the project involves the design and construction of a regional trail for multi-modal transportation connectivity and channel restoration of Joe's Creek to improve resiliency and habitat restoration. Pinellas County shared with my office that this project would promote workforce development and economic redevelopment in a low-income community along the project corridor by creating jobs and improving quality of life for residents.

Pinellas County believes that this project uniquely addresses all of NOAA's program priorities. Climate risk reduction adaptation actions for this coastal community include mitigating flood risk, stabilizing bank erosion, improving water quality, restoring habitat, combatting urban heat through enhanced greenspace, and increasing sheltering capacity.

For the reasons above, I hope that Pinellas County and its application will be given every consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathy Castor".

Kathy Castor
United States Representative
Florida, District 14



Slate of Officers

Mayor Woody Brown, Chair
Vice Mayor Maureen Freaney, Vice Chair
Commissioner René Flowers, Secretary/Treasurer
Councilwoman Brandi Gabbard, Past Chair
Wren G. Krahl, Executive Director

 4000 Gateway Centre Blvd., Suite 100
Pinellas Park, Florida 33782
 (727) 570-5151
 info@tbrpc.org
 www.tbrpc.org

January 5, 2024

Kelli Hammer Levy, MS, MPA, CPM, ENVSP
Director, Pinellas County Public Works
Pinellas County Government
22211 US Highway 19 North, Bldg. 1
Clearwater, FL 33765

Re: NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program

Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub

Dear Ms. Levy,

I, on behalf of Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, understand that Pinellas County Public Works is applying for grant funding through the NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Program for the Joe's Creek Restoration and Greenway Trail and Lealman Exchange Resilience Hub project. This grant investment will fund a transformative project that will restore Joe's Creek in accordance with the County's resilience vision.

This project provides a unique opportunity to address both physical and community resilience in an underserved portion of the County. The project will include restoration of Joe's Creek channel to reduce coastal climate risk, build the greenway trail to provide urban greenspace to mitigate heat island effects and improve air quality and mental health through recreation; increase connectivity to jobs and public transit; enhance the LEX resilience hub by increasing sheltering capacity and provide workforce development training that will help grow the workforce to become climate resilient. The multiple initiatives of this project will work in concert with each other to achieve a more resilient Joe's Creek and Pinellas County community.

The collaborative nature of this project through its multiple components will promote community engagement and involvement in the project and will foster long-term community resilience.

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council believes Pinellas County's use of this grant funding will achieve resilience in this coastal region while promoting regional collaboration, equity, and enduring capacity. We encourage NOAA to approve Pinellas County's application to fund the Joe's Creek Restoration project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Vitale", written over a white background.

Sarah Vitale, Planning Director
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council

727-510-5151 x27
sarah@tbrpc.org