

**ST.LUCIE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT
COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION
FIRE MARSHAL**



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Colt Schwerdt,

I am writing in support of the City of Port St. Lucie's proposed ordinance to require multiple access routes for certain developments. This important safety requirement aligns with best practices for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and will better equip our firefighters to protect lives and property in emergencies.

As you know, other access routes will serve as critical backup should the primary entrance or egress to a site become blocked during an emergency. This could occur from vehicle accidents, fallen trees or power lines, or other obstructions that are common during storms or other disasters. Without other access points, first responders can be severely hampered in their response, unable to reach those in need and prevent further loss.

The NFPA standards clearly outline the need for multiple access routes based on the below *NFPA Code 1141 5.1.4.1 (a) required number of access routes for residential areas* and proven firefighting experience and expertise. By putting these requirements into local code, Port St. Lucie is acting responsibly to ensure its new development adheres to these important provisions. This will give residents and businesses greater security and our firefighter's greater ability to react safely and effectively in crises.

Table 5.1.4.1(a) Required Number of Access Routes for Residential Areas

Number of Households	Number of Access Routes
0-100	1
101-600	2
>600	3

Sincerely,

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