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May 27, 2021

Mr. Russ Blackburn
City Manager
The City of Port St. Lucie
121 S.W. Port St. Lucie Boulevard
Port St. Lucie FL 34984-5099

Dear Mr. Blackburn:

On behalf of the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County Inc., we very much appreciate the City of Port St. Lucie's continued investment in and support of our economic development partnership.

We kindly request that the City of Port St. Lucie's FY 2021-2022 contribution to the EDC be increased to \$150,000 from \$80,000. Due to the extraordinary increase in the EDC's business attraction efforts and ongoing project management, the organization desperately needs to expand its operational capacity. This funding will be utilized to partially fund a full-time professional staff member. We will also develop and submit an updated budget and mid-year activities report to you very soon. Additionally, EDC has commissioned a new economic impact analysis (including ROI) on EDC assisted projects for years 2019-2021. This study will be available and submitted to you in August.

The EDC is very grateful for the strong working relationship with the City of Port St. Lucie. Your continued investment in the EDC will most certainly further our objective of growing our community's economy and help create quality jobs for our residents. Particularly in light of the ongoing challenges currently encountered in the post COVID-19 economy, job creation and a return to economic prosperity are extremely high priorities.

Thanks again for allowing us to submit this request to you. Please call me at (772) 336-6254 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Tesch
President

cc: Rob Lord

