



## SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

December 13, 2024

Mary F. Savage-Dunham  
Planning & Zoning Director  
City of Port St. Lucie Planning and Zoning Board  
121 SW Port St., Building B  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34984

Dear Ms. Savage-Dunham:

On behalf of South Florida Water Management District (District), I am writing to reaffirm the position the District expressed during the September 5, 2024 zoning variance hearing where, Joho Properties, LLC., requested the City of Port St. Lucie to grant a variance of the Zoning Code to allow for the development of the applicant's property, located inside and surrounded by the Savannas Preserve State Park. The District remains concerned about the compatibility of infrastructure associated with the use being proposed by the applicant with the preserve's purpose and ecological integrity.

Since the hearing, we have had the opportunity to meet with the applicant to discuss their proposed project. While we appreciate the opportunity to engage in dialogue and gain a better understanding of their plans, our concerns remain unchanged. We believe that such infrastructure poses significant risks to the preserve's intended function and could undermine its environmental and conservation goals.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We remain available to provide additional information or to participate in further discussions as needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Reynolds".

Jennifer Reynolds  
Division Director, Ecosystem Restoration