

Ereecy McNeal

From: Office Of Commissioner Clark
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 10:04 AM
To: Commissioner Correspondence
Subject: Bay County Disaster Relief

Please place the attached email in Docket No. 20190038-EI.

Best regards,

Hannah E. Barker
Executive Assistant to Commissioner Clark
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
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(850) 413-6004

From: Brandi DeRuitter [mailto:brandideruitter@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2019 3:51 PM
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Subject: Bay County Disaster Relief

Good afternoon,

I am writing today to briefly explain what I've seen in Bay County since Hurricane Michael hit six months ago; and respectfully ask for your support in helping ensure our community receives the state and federal resources it needs to return to pre-storm levels of economic growth, redevelopment and vitality.

Prior to the storm, the community was experiencing exciting new sustainable growth and economic diversity. All types of housing were being built, old "eyesores" redeveloped at a noticeably frequent rate, jobs could find employees and employees could find jobs. Everything had balance. The fruits of our community's communication, coordination and collaboration were making positive change.

Since the storm, everyone has been in continuous clean-up mode. But there is still a long way to go. My daily drive to work (to a portable, our office was destroyed) includes viewing so many homes, buildings and plazas reduced to rubble. People once lived in these homes and worked in those businesses. They had children, pets and the opportunity for a predictable daily life.

Today, cycles of downturn continue and mental health issues are understandably on the rise. We need your help. Category 5 storms are known for their destruction. We are all working hard to rebuild, but we can't do it alone. We need your help. We need state and federal funding for schools/colleges, hospitals, and local governments to make repairs to provide essential services. We need to make functional our economic infrastructure.

Please graciously continue to keep Bay County in mind as budgets are finalized and priorities are ordered.

Respectfully,

