TAB 4

MPO Board Members,

As you may recall, at the July 28th MPO Board meeting, staff received Board authorization to pursue an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Coalition Grant in the amount of \$1 million to identify Petroleum Brownfields along the Tamiami Trail (US 41) corridor from Hillsborough County to Charlotte/Sarasota County line.

The goal of the initiative is to identify, assess, and ultimately cleanup abandoned petroleum sites which will result into viable redevelopment projects to benefit the surrounding communities. The outcome will be to reuse properties, making for a more vibrant and attractive community along the Tamiami Trail Scenic Highway.

To begin the grant application process, I am requesting a letter verifying each jurisdiction's agreement to be a member of the Sarasota/Manatee MPO Tamiami Trail Petroleum Brownfields Revitalization Initiative Coalition. This letter can be signed by either your administrator/manager or Mayor/Board Chair. These letters will become part of the grant application package. I have attached a sample letter for your consideration.

Your assistance with this important task is greatly appreciated.

Bob

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Robert M. Herrington Planning Manager Sarasota/Manatee MPO 7632 15 Street East Sarasota, Florida 34243

RE: Agreement to be a member of the Sarasota/Manatee MPO Tamiami Trail Brownfields Revitalization Initiative Coalition for the purpose of applying for a US EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition grant in the amount of \$1 million.

Dear Mr. Herrington:

This letter is to verify that (<u>City or County Name</u>) agrees to be a member of the Sarasota/Manatee MPO Tamiami Trail Brownfields Revitalization Initiative Coalition for the purposes of applying for and the subsequent award of a US EPA Brownfields Assessment coalition grant in the amount of \$1 million for community-wide assessment in the MPO planning area. (<u>City or County Name</u>) is an eligible applicant due to its status as a municipal government.

The <u>(City or County Name)</u> agrees that the MPO will be the lead member of the coalition for the purposes of this grant. The MPO must administer the grant, if awarded, be accountable to the EPA for proper expenditure of funds and be the point of contact for the coalition.

Further, it is our understanding that coalition members are not eligible in this grant cycle as applicants for additional community-wide or site-specific assessment grants, and that a coalition member wishing to apply as a separate applicant must withdraw from the coalition to be eligible for individual assessment funds.

Sincerely,

(City/County Administrator/Manager or, Mayor/Board Chair)