



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

March 23, 2017

Mr. Edward Boling
Acting Chairman, Council of Environmental Policy
Executive Office of the President
722 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Chairman Boling:

I would like to bring to your attention a long pending road project in Pasco County, Florida. For 19 years, federal permits have delayed Pasco County's work to develop the Ridge Road Extension which will provide critical hurricane and tropical storm evacuation capacity for more than 200,000 residents in the county's coastal areas. I have been assured that Pasco County is prepared to implement the project pending issuance of the federal permit required by the Clean Water Act. As a county road, the state has no permitting or financial responsibility. I write this letter to request your timely review of the Ridge Road Extension project for designation as a "high priority" infrastructure project for expedited environmental review by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Executive Order 13766 signed by President Trump on January 24, 2017.

When I was in business, I often waited a long time for a simple yes or no. Regardless of what the answer is, Pasco County deserves a timely response. I understand that the county has worked diligently with the Army Corps to complete the permit process and I appreciate your attention and quick action on this matter so the county may plan accordingly and avoid unnecessary waste in this drawn-out procedure.

I have enclosed background information regarding the county's efforts to obtain the required permit and implement the project. Please let me know if my office can provide additional information that would assist in your review. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor

cc: Congressman Gus Bilirakis