

Rick Scott  
GOVERNOR



Doug Darling  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 30, 2011

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CITY MANAGER

Mr. Jim Scholl, City Manager  
City of Key West  
City Hall  
3132 Flagler Avenue  
Key West, Florida 33040

Dear Mr. Scholl:

The Department of Economic Opportunity (Department), pursuant to its role as the State Land Planning Agency, is requesting the designation of a City Commissioner for the City of Key West to serve in the Hurricane Evacuation Clearance Time Work Group (Work Group). The Governor and Cabinet, seated as the Administration Commission, directed the State Land Planning Agency and Monroe County to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Division of Emergency Management, City of Marathon, Village of Islamorada, City of Key West, City of Key Colony Beach, and City of Layton regarding hurricane evacuation. The MOU will address the input variables and assumptions, including regional considerations, to depict hurricane evacuation clearance times for the population of the Florida Keys. Utilizing recent U.S. Census data, the MOU will be the basis for completing an analysis of maximum build-out capacity and to determine the remaining allocations and distribution of the development potential in the Florida Keys while allowing the permanent population to evacuate within 24 hours. The specific rule language regarding the MOU and associated actions is included as an attachment to this letter.

The Department would like to conduct the first meeting of the Work Group in January 2012. The specific meeting dates and locations will be announced in December. The meeting dates will be scheduled late within each month to avoid local government meeting conflicts. The Department plans to conduct meetings in the Upper, Middle and Lower Keys. At this time, we anticipate conducting three meetings between January and March 2012, followed by the distribution of a draft MOU to each local government for consideration during a public hearing.

The Department will provide the hurricane evacuation model, conduct modeling scenarios, provide data and a draft MOU for the Work Group to evaluate. The local governments will review the hurricane evacuation model assumptions, variables, and other relevant data and make recommendations for model inputs. Planning staff from each local

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government and other individuals involved in hurricane evacuation planning will be invited to participate.

Please contact Rebecca Jetton, Areas of Critical State Concern Program Administrator, at (850) 717-8494 regarding the name of the individual who will represent the City of Key West in the Work Group. Thank you for your participation and let us know if there are any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Thomas Beck".

J. Thomas Beck, AICP  
Director, Division of Community Development

TB/rj

Enclosures: Rule 28-20.140(5)(a), Florida Administrative Code

**Rule 28-20.140 (5)(a), Florida Administrative Code**

11. By July 1, 2012, Monroe County shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Emergency Management, Marathon, Islamorada, Key West, Key Colony Beach, and Layton after a notice and comment period of at least 30 days for interested parties. The memorandum of understanding shall stipulate, based on professionally acceptable data and analysis, the input variables and assumptions, including regional considerations, for utilizing the Florida Keys Hurricane Evacuation Model or other models acceptable to the Department to accurately depict evacuation clearance times for the population of the Florida Keys.
12. By July 1, 2012, the Florida Keys Hurricane Evacuation Model shall be run with the agreed upon variables from the memorandum of understanding to complete an analysis of maximum build-out capacity for the Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern, consistent with the requirement to maintain a 24-hour evacuation clearance time and the Florida Keys Carrying Capacity Study constraints. This analysis shall be prepared in coordination with the Department of Community Affairs and each municipality in the Keys.
13. By July 1, 2012, the County and the Department of Community Affairs shall update the data for the Florida Keys Hurricane Evacuation Model as professionally acceptable sources of information are released (such as the Census, American Communities Survey, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, and other studies). The County shall also evaluate and address appropriate adjustments to the hurricane evacuation model within each Evaluation and Appraisal Report.
14. By July 1, 2012, the Department of Community Affairs shall apply the derived clearance time to assess and determine the remaining allocations for the Florida Keys Areas of Critical State Concern. The Department will recommend appropriate revisions to the Administration Commission regarding the allocation rates and distribution of allocations to Monroe County, Marathon, Islamorada, Key West, Layton and Key Colony Beach or identify alternative evacuation strategies that support the 24 hour evacuation clearance time. If necessary, the Department of Community Affairs shall work with each local government to amend the Comprehensive Plans to reflect revised allocation rates and distributions or propose rule making to the Administration Commission.
15. By July 1, 2013, if necessary, the Department of Community Affairs shall work with each local government to amend the Comprehensive Plan to reflect revised allocation rates and distribution or propose rule making to the Administration Commission.