



Marion County Board of County Commissioners

McPherson Governmental Campus

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District 1 - Craig Curry, Commissioner
District 2 - Kathy Bryant, Commissioner
District 3 - Jeff Gold, Chairman
District 4 - Carl Zalak III, Vice Chairman
District 5 - Michelle Stone, Commissioner

August 17, 2021

Steven Weiland
Bureau Chief/Compliance and Accountability
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Division of Strategic Business Development
107 E Madison St., MSC-80
Tallahassee, FL 32389

Re: Rescission of Marion County, Florida Support of Mestizo Foods, LLC in QTI Tax
Refund Program

Dear Sir:

Please be advised, that Mestizo Foods, LLC, has defaulted under the EIP/EDFIG Grant Agreement between the City of Ocala, Marion County, and Mestizo Foods, LLC, dated June 6, 2017 and the First Amendment thereto dated January 6, 2020 (collectively the "Agreement"). Accordingly, on August 17, 2021, Marion County terminated the Agreement and rescinded all eligibility of Mestizo Foods, LLC, for Economic Development Funding Incentive Grants.

The purpose of this letter is to place the State of Florida on notice that effective immediately Marion County entirely rescinds its support of Mestizo Foods, LLC, in the State's Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program.

If there are any questions or concerns with this matter, kindly contact Mike McCain at (352) 438-2300, Michael.McCain@marionfl.org, at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

Jeff Gold, Chairman

Cc: Daniel Villanueva, Mestizo Foods, LLC
Rusty Karschner, Pulley Salty Snacks, LLC
Sandra Wilson, City Manager, City of Ocala