



Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Administration

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July 18, 2025

Bureau of Community Planning and Growth
Division of Community Development
FloridaCommerce
107 East Madison Street, MSC 160
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4120

Re: Letter of Support for East Central Florida Regional Capacity Building and Technical Assistance Grant Proposal

Dear Review Committee,

Please accept this letter of support from Marion County, for the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council (ECFRPC)'s FloridaCommerce Technical Assistance Grant Proposal "East Central Florida Regional Capacity Building and Technical Assistance" to coordinate and facilitate the ongoing planning needs of the eight (8) counties in the East Central Florida region. The grant will work towards identifying and aligning local needs, cataloging existing opportunities and resources, and providing targeted technical assistance to make these opportunities a reality. Areas of focus would include, but not be limited to, the following regional priorities in the East Central Florida (ECF) Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP): promoting resilient and healthy communities; protecting and enhancing natural resources; fostering sustainable economic development; and strengthening regional collaboration.

As local resources are limited, the work proposed through this grant would serve a great deal in closing gaps in planning needs across the region, serve to align local needs on a greater regional scale for a greater return, and identify opportunities to leverage partnerships, existing networks, and other avenues to advance and implement activities in east central Florida. This coordination, assistance, and alignment is instrumental to support local and regional efforts.

Marion County is fully supportive of this grant proposal as it moves the region forward towards implementing the SRPP and a sustainable and resilient future for the region.

Thank you in advance for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mounir Bouyounes", is written over a horizontal line.

Mounir Bouyounes, P.E.
County Administrator