

January 13, 2026

Honorable Chair Cecil Pendergrass
Lee County Board of County Commissioners - District 2
P.O. Box 398
Fort Myers, FL 33902

Honorable Chair Pendergrass:

On behalf of the Sanibel City Council, we write to express our strong support for Community Housing and Resources (CHR) and its request for \$15 million from the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) allocation to support the development of affordable workforce housing as part of Sanibel's long-term recovery and resilience efforts.

Sanibel continues to face significant post-disaster challenges, particularly in rebuilding and retaining a stable workforce essential to the island's recovery, economic vitality, and quality of life. Investments in affordable workforce housing are critical to ensuring that Sanibel can remain competitive for essential workers, support local businesses, and function as a resilient, sustainable community.

CHR is currently pursuing the acquisition of a property that would create the opportunity to develop a multi-use workforce housing project providing up to 38 new affordable apartment homes. If realized, this project would represent a transformational milestone for Sanibel by helping the City achieve its 3% affordable housing goal as outlined in the Sanibel Plan. Progress toward this goal is essential to maintaining a balanced community that can support public safety, education, healthcare, hospitality, and other critical services.

The proposed CHR project aligns directly with the intent of CDBG-DR funding by addressing disaster recovery needs, strengthening housing stability, and enhancing long-term community resilience. This investment would not only provide safe and affordable housing options for the workforce but would also contribute to the broader recovery of Sanibel and the surrounding region.

The Sanibel City Council respectfully urges the Lee County Board of County Commissioners to support CHR's request for CDBG-DR funding and to recognize the significant community-wide benefits that this workforce housing investment will provide.

Thank you for your continued leadership and partnership in supporting recovery, resilience, and housing solutions for Lee County and the City of Sanibel.

Sincerely,



City of Sanibel

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